Canada

EME Journal

Magazine of the Electrical and Mechanical Engineering Branch



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Introduction

The EME Journal is the magazine of the Electrical and Mechanical Engineering Branch, published at CFSEME under the terms of reference of the EME Branch Fund and the EME Branch Advisor. The purpose of the publication is to disseminate professional information among Retired, Serving and Reserve Members of the EME Branch.

The EME Journal depends upon its readers for content. Articles on all aspects of the Electrical and Mechanical Engineering System, photographs, cartoons, people news and comments are solicited. Readers are reminded that the Journal is an unclassified and unofficial source of information. The contents do not necessarily represent official DND policy and are not to be quoted as authority for action.

Contributors are asked to submit the original text typewritten, accompanied by a disk in MS Word format. Photos should be sharp, glossy black and white or colour prints (300 dpi) with captions typed separately. Personnel should be identified in all cases, both text and captions, by rank, initials, surname, trade and Unit. The editor reserves the right to edit or reject submitted material.

Captain B.M. Cook
EME Branch Adjutant




EME JOURNAL

The Magazine of the Electrical and Mechanical Engineering Branch

Branch Formation: 15 May 1944
Branch Motto: Arte et Marte
Branch Patron Saint: Saint Jean de Brébeuf
Branch Colonel Commandant: Colonel (Retired) M.C. Johnston
Branch Advisor: Colonel J.C.M. Giguère
Branch Chief Warrant Officer: Chief Warrant Officer J.D.A. Vass

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THE BRANCH ADVISOR'S MESSAGE

By: Col J.C.M. Giguère, EME Branch Advisor



'May we live in interesting times.' A Chinese proverb.

We are indeed living in interesting times and we are facing very tough challenges; however, I believe that if we can manage "today" properly, and invest in "tomorrow" wisely, we as a Branch will both grow and continue to make ourselves invaluable to the conduct of military operations.

The Branch is faced with many constraints, in particular, the scarce resources situation. Transforming to a modernized, digitized and command-centric, knowledge-based Army costs money, and the Army must try and free resources up now to invest in the future. These have implications to the Branch in terms of people, training and career development. Further, we are facing critical shortages in our Branch and although we have had some successes in recruiting, we now have to address a significant training backlog.

Further, the events of the past few years and the focus on war against terrorism have accelerated an already high and near unsustainable pace of operations. Interoperability and the leveraging of technology have necessitated a focus on training and a fundamental review on how we can support the Army of Tomorrow. All of these events are impacting the CF and the Army, and the EME Branch must keep pace with these changes if we wish to remain viable and relevant. Hand in hand with this is the development of the Branch, so that our soldier-technicians are capable of performing on the future battle-space. This means delivering the right training, support equipment and other necessary tools so this can continue.

Therefore, in order to manage today while building for tomorrow, it is necessary that you clearly understand my main effort, which is broken down against my two main objectives: the EME Branch and LEMS.

THE EME BRANCH

From a Branch perspective, I am concerned with our manning levels specifically the distressed trades, and hence my main effort is to re-establish the health of the Branch. To do this, I intend to use all means available to us to manage our manning and training issues. This includes tackling various initiatives such as accreditation, training, manning, specialist pay and other issues near and dear to your hearts. Some of the key enablers I see as opportunities to better the health of our Branch are:

Training. The Branch, with CFSEME leading, is exploring methods of leveraging simulation in the provision of technical training. This could decrease actual costs in infrastructure and training aids while providing a cost efficient means to maintain technical currency by preventing skill fade. The application for the Reserves is significant. Further, CFSEME is looking at standardizing QL4 training packages, and at restructuring our QL training to deliver more front-end training at the QL3 level.

Reserves - Land Forces Reserve Restructure (LFRR). Most of the Army Reserve of Tomorrow issues are hinged on the funding approval of LFRR Phase 2. Having said that, the Branch is moving ahead on several initiatives such as a study to develop a modularized recovery role, the feasibility of conducting in-situ training, and the initiation of a fundamental training review.

Army Succession Planning (ASP). ASP is intended as a management tool that will permit the effective management of the potential of Army personnel with a view to establishing and maintaining a constant pool of leaders available for a range of key appointments within the Army and the CF. The ASP assures a consistent and uniform approach that has visibility throughout all the components of the Army. This applies to both Officers and NCMs. I will be writing an EME Communiqué to further explain the ASP process and in particular how this process will be managed in the EME Branch; however, I believe it is a sound process to ensure that we not only develop the potential of our Branch members, but also ensure the best leadership to our soldiers.

Army Military Occupation Review. This review takes place once a year, and allows the Branch to discuss key Human Resource (HR) issues within the Branch with our Managing Authority (MA) - the Army. This year will be key as we tackle the issues of growth from the stand up of the JSG as well as look at the results of the recruiting drive (which has been surprisingly successful in its first year) relative to our ability to deliver training in sufficient quality and quantity to meet expectations and demands.

Military Occupational Structure Analysis, Redesign and Tailoring (MOSART). All MOS will undergo a review, with the 400 series scheduled for review in fiscal year 05/06/07. Although not an immediate target, I believe it is important that we develop a strategy and carefully monitor how PMO MOSART proceeds in order to be prepared when our Branch undergoes a review. PMO MOSART will be looking at EME personnel, their skills sets and training resources required to ensure that the EME Branch continues to be viable to meet the defence objectives, now and in the future.

Communications. I remain committed to maintaining an active communication strategy using: Communiqués, Journal Articles, Visits, the EME Forum, and any other media available to ensure you get the right message.

LAND ENGINEERING MAINTENANCE SYSTEMS (LEMS)

From the LEMS perspective, my main effort lies in supporting the Army of Tomorrow and being pro-active vice re-active with the numerous initiatives that are taking place both in the Department and the world. Some of the priority enablers in this area include the following.

National Military Support Capability (NMSC). Once declared operational, the NMSC will produce the JSG, which will be designed/mandated to perform ROTO 0 (along with theatre activation and recce tasks for mission start-up) with support tasks for deployments. A major component of the JSG will be the creation of the Joint Field Workshop and the JSG integral support requirements. This will necessitate an increase of approximately 175 new EME positions.

Material Acquisition and Support Information System (MASIS). From a Branch perspective, we are providing advice to MASIS in the following areas: product life cycle management (from cradle to grave), corrective and preventive maintenance, tools management, HR processes, operational planning and deployments issue and a degree of performance measurement (workshop to strategic level HQs against efficiency and effectiveness) as well as enhancing our ability to scale. This is a key IM/IT enabler that will permit us greater situational awareness in the management of the CF land equipment.

Support Equipment Development. The new WLAV support variants, many of which were displayed at the last BLUEBELL Conference, are progressing well with user trials completed in Sep for the AVGP Veh MRT and Wpns/FCS MRT. The AVGP re-role programme has recently gained Treasury Board approval. The Bison MRT upgrade is on schedule and we hope to trial a prototype in early summer next year. An option to increase the number of Bison MRT by 29 and not upgrade the AVGP Husky is being looked at by DLR. The TLAV support variants are also progressing. The MTVF was trialed in Sep alongside the AVGP MRTs. MTVR trials have identified some problems with the spade system and a review is taking place. Containerization of maintenance facilities is progressing, and I hope to gain acceptance through leveraging the efforts of both the NMSC and MLVW Replacement projects. The shelter design, along with a doctrine for tire maintenance is being developed through trials being undertaken by 2 GS Bn over the coming year.

Army Support Review (ASR). The ASR is a new initiative directed by CLS under the auspices of the Army "G4". Its mandate is to design the most efficient CSS force generation structure and optimized delivery of support services. Although I recognize that we are over stressed with all of the changes and tasks facing us, I believe this initiative to be key to moving forward in the future as a relevant component of the Army Force package.

SUMMARY.

You now have my perspective as well as my main effort and how I see achieving them as we head into 2003 and beyond. However, and I have said this many times, the Branch cannot achieve anything unless we have a collective will and desire to move forward with purpose. Therefore, I challenge each of you to submit your ideas and to seek out your leadership to discuss issues of concern. We are well respected in the Army today, as well as the Air Force and the Navy. We are looked at as more than technicians, we are soldier-technicians; a very valuable and essential ingredient for success on today and the future's battle-space. A simple look at our performance in Afghanistan will attest to that, where we not only maintained the contingent equipment to a high serviceable standard under poor conditions, but also assisted our Allies in equipment support and performed combat tasks ranging from security to patrols. This is the EME spirit the Army has come to respect and expect. Do not let the current outlook fool you, the Army will survive, it will transform, and it will advance with purpose into the future, and EME will be right there with them, where the action is.

Arte et Marte.

1 GS BN FD WKSP VEH PL DEPLOY WITH CRAFTYS

By: Capt H. Harty, 1 GS Bn

1 GS Bn deployed to an EX area between Wainwright and Edmonton in the town of Vergreville from 18 - 22 Nov. It was a unique chance for members to exercise as a Bn and a milestone for the number of Craftsmen (Cfns) deployed with the Fd Wksp. Veh Pl deployed with 36 personnel including 21 Cfns.

The goal of the EX was to test GS Bn FMSB Doctrine and to gain deployment experience within an urban environment. The younger Craftys drew from expertize of senior technicians within the platoon. In this environment and with the great number of Cfns, it was a challenge for supervisors to provide guidance during all phases of the EX. The Cfns were able to accept the challenge of all tasks and with little supervision, provided real time GS Bn support with outstanding results.

The EX was a great success. Many points were noted on how to better provide GS Bn support to the Brigade in the future. The Cfns were professional throughout the exercise and adapted to a changing environment. This was evident as the Cfns provided a great deal of input, which will be adapted in upcoming future exercises and deployments. The Cfns of 1 GS Bn, Fd Wksp, Veh Pl demonstrated initiative and motivation to get the job done and throughout, maintained a high level of morale.

We would like to thank our Col Cmdt for his visit to the Fd Wksp while deployed. It is always a pleasure to meet with him and his visit was appreciated by the younger members of the Branch.

Hats off to the Craftys of Veh Pl. It is a pleasure to work with such professionals.



EME HERITAGE PROJECT

As mentioned in the last issue of the Journal, this is a recent Branch initiative to perpetuate our EME heritage. The project encompasses two activities. The first being the "Friends of the EME Museum" initiative with its main focus to see the development of a museum to facilitate and house the Branch's collection of artefacts and memorabilia. To date, several cash donations have been received from interested and concerned persons with other individuals (service members) contributing through the payroll deduction plan. The second initiative is the "Heritage Fund". Its main focus is to preserve our existing collection of artefacts and memorabilia through repair and restoration. A secondary focus is to purchase EME related items as they become available.

Persons wishing to contribute to either of these EME Branch Project Funds may do through a cash donation or through the CF pay system using pay code Y022 for the Museum Fund and Y021 for the Heritage Fund.

WORLD YOUTH DAY 2002 TORONTO

By: Cpl K. D. Sole, 1 GS Bn

There was a feeling of cultural pride; spontaneous singing, dancing, and flag-waving; almost like being a spectator at the World Cup. There was a feeling of celebration, like at "La Carnival" in Rio or even "Mardi Gras". There was a sense of global community, like being an athlete at the Olympics. Of course, never having that experience, I'm only guessing that the world does come together like this as it did on that special day where it shall remain in my heart and mind forever. But, here's what I do know…

The people of the world came together for a common goal: to celebrate Mass with Pope John Paul II as we did in Toronto in July 2002. It was called World Youth Day 2002, and although it is celebrated annually, the youth of the world only come together every few years. The very first was celebrated in Rome in 1985, and has also been celebrated in such places as Poland, Argentina, and the Philippines. The word "Day" is also a misnomer as there are actually about two weeks of events prior to the main celebration of Mass, with the week before focusing on the host city.



The whole bus load; just before boarding for the trip home

My personal journey began in 2001 with the decision to go, and lucky for me, I had some connections. In Edmonton, I was part of a committee to bring a rally to the Archdiocese each year, and I am also involved on my Parish Council as a Youth Representative for a group of young people. I work with them on a regular basis. Under the guidance of Father Mike and Brother Dan, I and other adult leaders of the Church including a large contingent of young people from the Edmonton area began the preparations for attendance. Right up until we left, there were many activities, meetings and planning sessions. The months immediately prior to departure, I was kept busy with my military training for the G-8 Summit in Kaninaskis. So when the day arrived for departure, I felt like "the new guy" of the group even though I was one of the original few to sign on to this once in a lifetime trip.

On the day of our "retreat", I boarded a bus with forty-one others, including the bus driver whom we nicknamed "Otto". Our road trip to Toronto was long, stopping only to eat, with those times usually coinciding with significant places along the route. As a group, we had decided many months earlier that if we were to drive across the country and back, we should make things more educational and fun for those that had never been far from home. And so the quest for interesting and useless facts about the places we were passing through began. We stopped in such places as Winnipeg and visited the grave of Louis Riel; we stopped in Thunder Bay and paid tribute to Terry Fox and waved at Winnie-the-Pooh in White River (at about two in the morning). Just before breakfast each morning, we were regaled with stories from Veggie Tales ("I love my lips"). Slowly, surely and some wicked swollen ankles later, we finally arrived in Toronto.

What I witnessed there was the best and the worst of humanity. Although the city decided to postpone their garbage strike for Word Youth Day, we certainly created our own mountains of refuse. And yet, when we returned to the Exhibition Grounds each morning, everything was all new again. (I'm sure the clean-up process became easier when the Toronto Sun decided NOT to distribute complimentary copies of their paper). And great kudos to whoever came up with the food planning. Although not necessarily the most efficient process, they still managed to feed hundreds of thousands of people. But that too, created mountains of garbage, and that was definitely some of the worst sights.

The week was filled with many activities: daily masses, catechesis, seminars, speakers, and PEOPLE, PEOPLE and more PEOPLE!!! If a country was represented, I met someone from there: Germany, Poland, Ukraine, Nigeria, Belgium, United Arab Emirates, Abu Dabai, Curacaos, Ireland, Philippines, South Africa, Australia, Mexico, anywhere and everywhere, and of course from all across Canada, and of course our neighbors to the south; "Edmonton? Where's that? Ever heard of the Edmonton Oilers? No? Do you know where Montana is? Okay, go about six hours north." Pins, buttons and cultural tokens of all sizes and nature were flying everywhere. The string of my gate pass got rather heavy from all of it.

We found that those people representing Toronto (city police, firemen, transit workers, and even the poor people who had to tolerate the spontaneous singing and dancing on the subway and streetcars and buses) were very hospitable and tolerant. As a leader, I found that the old adage "You can't lead from behind" to be so very not true in this case. You see, you can't shepherd from the front. To count sheep, you must be the last person. I found a deep sense of pride in my charges when we were in a group on the subway, and by the time I herded everybody on and went to do a head count, somebody was already doing it.

Some interesting moments definitely came from the people I met. We had a couple of Italians sing us a lullaby one night; a group of Mexicans were giving out free hugs ("Oh, they're free? I'll take two."); there were Lithuanians with "Kiss me, I'm Lithuanian" shirts, and as the host country, I felt it best not to be rude to them. We encountered a group of Americans from mostly Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, and I expressed my concern for not meeting anyone yet from the wonderful town of Hershey, when a young man turns around and says, "Did you say 'Hershey?'" Minutes later, I was walking away with a hug and giant stuffed Hershey Kiss.

We saw the most amazing recreation of the last days of Christ. It was based on the Stations of the Cross, and called the Way of the Cross. This whole dramatic Passion of Christ wove its way through the downtown core. Although, I did not get very close to the Pope, I did manage a scant fifteen feet away from Jesus Christ.

And then it came time for the big Mass celebration at Downsview; this is where it came together for us. Some of us bigger people from our group camped overnight at the gates to make sure we got a decent spot, although next morning, we had to hike in through fog thicker than marshmallow fluff. Then, after ringing out the morning dew, we made it through the gates and bee lined towards the coveted Purple Section to stake out our location, a hundred feet from the stage. We anxiously awaited the arrival of the rest of our pilgrims. The remainder of the day was spent accomplishing a number of things: finding shade, standing in the food line, standing in the washroom line, standing in the water point line…and if you're me, it was spent going around meeting people (me, meet people imagine that!)

Saturday night ended with a Vesper service and some entertainment, but mostly some well-earned sleep; well, right up until the rain started at about 2:30 am. And then it stopped. And then around 6:30 am, boy, did it ever rain. There was no real cover from the onslaught, and people and things became, oh so very wet! It did not really dampen our spirits though, well, not mine anyways. Minutes before the Pope arrived, we were witness to wind and rain and elements; almost like the Holy Spirit was truly among us. But when the Holy Father showed up, the weather broke completely. As the Mass progressed, one of the readings talked about how St. Paul was riding down the road and was suddenly “blinded by the light”, and wouldn't you know, the clouds cleared at that moment, and we were all blinded by the light, if but for a moment.

The whole Mass, and the week were constantly filled with chants of “JPII…We Love You” and “Giovanni Paulo”, as a reminder that some things are truly universal and understood by everybody, no matter where you are from.

The trip home was much like the way there: great lengths of togetherness on the bus (remembering the phrase “young adults”, I now know more about the Backstreet Boys than I ever thought possible), stopping to eat, learning about our vast country, little sleep, and swollen ankles all around.

My special thanks to Michael from Belgium, I wish I could have talked to him more, and to Andrew from Detroit (“I just want to be a sheep…”). These young men reminded me exactly what this whole thing was about; reaching out to other people. They definitely fell into the best of the humanity category. And also my thanks to the EME Branch Fund. This was not an inexpensive venture, and the Fund very generously helped to partly sponsor my cost. Which reminds me, when I go to the next one in Cologne, Germany in 2005…...(just kidding.) Truly though, my thanks to everyone at work that helped me with this whole process of going on this pilgrimage, from my co-workers who had to witness my excitement, all the way up to the Branch Fund.

Arte et Marte

REMEMBERING HIM WITH HEART

By: Mrs M. Muise, wife of the late WO J.R. (John) Muise (1957-2001)

I have been asked to tell you a little bit about my husband, WO John Muise, the sports fanatic. I first met John in Gagetown while we were both in high school. He was considered a very good student, for in his grade 12 year he had only to write one exam and this was because he missed the exemption mark by a point four margin. But schooling was not for John as I soon found out. John was into Sports and in a big way! That year he was big into soccer but also played some lacrosse. After graduation, John joined the Army and also its sports world. He was in his element so to speak. During the two years he was posted to Gagetown, he played baseball and soccer for the Army, which really would not have been all that bad, but he grew up in Oromocto and also played ball and soccer with his civilian friends. So now he was a member of not two, but four sport teams and on weekends, his buddies would come knocking on our door to see if John could come out and play.



In Lahr, John tried out for the Svc Bn intersection hockey team. He played wing and what a riot! That first season he used the boards to stop, and if the bench door wasn't open by the time he was coming off the ice, he would just fall over the boards and into the bench. The second year, he volunteered for goalie. He thought it would be easy. It was during those early hockey years where I learned that he wasn't a quitter and would not give up.

When we came back to Gagetown, he was now an accomplished goalie (or so he thought) and did very well with the Base Maint team. But now, John had a problem with one teammate, WO Bill Moore. You see John and Bill grew up in Oromocto together, and with John doing so well as goalie and having many a shut out, Bill would purposely stand in front of the goal net to block John's view. I guess he didn't want John to get a swelled head and with John being so small in the net, all John would see was deflections. Many nights we would laugh over those games. It was here in Gagetown that John became interested in broomball.

As he grew older, he realized that his body was not twenty anymore and injuries were taking longer to heal. Ball season injuries took until soccer season to heal, then broomball and hockey season injuries would take until ball season, one vicious circle. But if a team needed him, he would play. He tried to coach sometimes but...

John believed you could play to win, follow the rules, but if you weren't winning you could still have fun and display sportsmanship, even if it meant his lob ball team losing a run because of him knowing and applying the rules. He always felt that even if you weren't the best player; if you showed up for the practices and the games, then you deserved to play because you were there for the team.

John would never say he was the high scorer, best shot, and fastest or longest runner. Many people would tell me different. John didn't believe in tooting his own horn. His philosophy was to do your best whether in sports, at work or at home. He once told me that while studying on course, someone said why bother, it was pretty much just attend and you would pass. John's reply to him was " you leave your job and family for six months and if you fail, you would just have to do it over again, so why do half a job of something. After all, you would only have to spend more time repeating something you had already done; and that would be a waste!"

Throughout John's whole military career and his time with us, he always gave 110 percent to all he tackled and this was especially true in any sport he played or participated. Even when fishing, which became a valued leisure in his final few years, he displayed the same passion that I saw in all his endeavours. His last summer with us, he was still active and out and about. He loved life, especially sports and embraced them with his whole heart.

Hence "He gave with heart and he played with heart".

CFSEME HOSTS THE EME BRANCH
1ST ANNUAL WO J.R. MUISE MEMORIAL HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

By: Capt K.Buchanan, CFSEME

CFSEME hosted the 1st Annual WO J.R. Muise Memorial Hockey Tournament from 3-6 December 2002 at the Andy Anderson Arena in Borden. The Tournament has been conducted by the EME Branch and hosted by CFSEME for the past 9 years. Formally called the EME Branch Hockey Tournament, the name was modified at the end of last year's event to honour WO J.R. Muise who passed away in 2001. This year's Tournament attracted EME Branch members from over 10 Bases across Canada and abroad. We had 14 teams in total from CFSEME, CFSTG Maint, London, Kingston, Ottawa, Valcartier, Gagetown, numerous Petawawa teams and a REME team from the UK complete with two EME members serving in Germany.



Opening Face-Off between Valcartier and CFSEME

Inter-division play began on 3 Dec with the Tournament being officially opened by the EME Col Cmdt, Col Johnston, and Marilyn Muise accompanied by her children. Play continued throughout the week with the finals for all divisions occurring the morning of 6 Dec. The elite "Arte" division and the slightly less competitive "Marte" division were named after the Branch motto meaning "By Skill and By Fighting". They were aptly named, as there was certainly a lot of skill showcased and some games proved to be more emotional then others, demonstrating our competitive spirit.

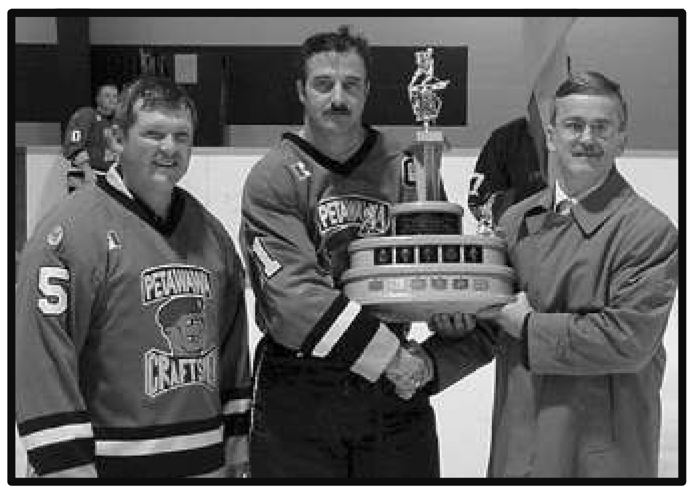


Sgt Piggott from CFSTG Maint accepts the Sadie Division Trophy from Marilyn Muise



Lt Hatfield accepts the Heart Award from Marilyn Muise

In the Marte final, London beat Ottawa 7-4, to become the Marte champs taking the trophy from last years winner and a very disappointed REME team. The Arte division saw the underdogs from Petawawa successful over Valcartier by a score of 4-0, and a very happy 5 team contingent went home with a trophy in hand. Often overshadowed by the other competitive divisions, there was the fun "Sadie" division named after a statue liberated from an Italian garden in 1943. Sadie is a symbol of humour in the face of danger and play in this division could definitely be described as humourous but equally as competitive as the other divisions. In the Sadie division final, CFSTG Maint beat Petawawa 2-0.



The Petawawa team accepts the Arte Division Trophy from Col Giguère

The Tournament was officially brought to a close by Col Giguère, the EME Branch Advisor at the conclusion of the Arte final game. Teams received their trophies and Marilyn Muise presented the Heart Award to Lt Hatfield, the player who played with the most desire and effort during the Tournament. The WO J.R. Muise Memorial Hockey Tournament is one of the key EME events held yearly that develops pride and identity in the EME Branch. As always this years Tournament was successful at instilling and renewing the high degree of esprit de corps within the EME Branch.

Arte et Marte

“YOU NEED THE WILL TO DO WHAT YOU ARE ALLOWED TO DO”: *Col (Ret'd) M.C. Johnston, EME Col Cmdt*

Excerpt from Borden Citizen dated 14 Aug 02 by Padre W. Smith (CFSEME Padre Mar - Sep 02)

As a Reservist (with one foot in the military and the other outside of it), I can tell you that the “outside” world sees the military as a much colder environment in which to work, than it really is. I've learned that the stacks of controlling documents, which set the parameters of our daily work, are nothing compared to the mountain of respect and personal relationships, which knit the fabric of our military life and allow us to work together.

It seems obvious to many outside of the military that it should be easy for us to always do what we are allowed to do. Ah! But what about the cost of doing the “right thing” to our relationships? There is a price tag on any achievement.

To borrow a phrase from a recent EME Branch Fund Scholarship winner, “When you get older, you realize you can be anything you want to be...if you can afford it.” This, I suggest, does not only apply to money.

That perspective was confirmed, and summarized, for me by Colonel (Ret'd) M.C.Johnston, EME Col Cmdt. He emboldened a QL7 class recently with the opening words of this article. Let's hear them again, and often: “You need the will to do what you are allowed to do.”

It takes nerve to do the right thing when everyone else is simply “getting by.” It takes nerve to put some rules in perspective and it takes resolve to apply reasonable ones. It takes nerve to stop abuse. It takes nerve to lift up a colleague when others would step around her, or him. It takes guts to say, “I'm sorry.” It takes great strength to admit one's weakness. It takes full emotional throttle to say words of respect and love, especially when hope seems thin, the crowd is tough and you feel trapped.

It's true in both military and civilian life: It's not easy to do the right thing. Our minds may be willing, but sometimes the rest of our life gets in the way. St. Paul - in his Roman dispatch from the front lines of his mission field - put it this way: “I can will what is right, but I cannot do it, for I do not do the good I want, but the evil that I do not want, is what I do…so, I find it to be a law, that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand...I see in my body…a war with the law of my mind, making me captive… “ (Romans 7:19-23)

Perhaps “evil” might be too strong a word to use in those situations when we are afraid to do the right thing, but the sentiment is worthy of our fullest consideration. We each know our mission in life and in work, and as former U.S. President Theodore Roosevelt once said, “We must do what we can, with what we have, where we are.”

This week, may God grant you the will to do the right thing.

HISTORY PRESERVED

By: Capt C. VanVolkenburg, 3 RCR

In Aug 02 while 3 RCR Maint Pl was providing support to 3 RCR as part of the Rapid Reaction Unit training, the Wpns Section received some 60mm mortars that required repair and maintenance. Parts were needed and ordered. When the parts arrived (in the factory original mortar cases), MCpl Parker and Cpl Guevrement, our local Wpns Techs, were surprised when they viewed the serviceability tag on the case and bipod. Of course MCpl Parker and Cpl Guevrement have seen many serviceability tags prior to this, but never one that was filled out and dated for 9 Nov 1959!!

The tag was filled out by 202 Workshop with the requirement to place the mortar base plate and the bipod in long-term preservation. The tag appears to be signed by a J.R. Lellam (the exact spelling is unclear due to the signature). The bipods appear to have been made two years prior to entering into preservation. Whoever the technician was, they did an excellent job as the parts were still covered in preservative and there was no element of rust on the parts despite 43 years on the shelf.



Cpl Guevrement comparing the Old and the "NEW" Bipods

50TH RCEME APPRENTICE SOLDIER REUNION

By: WO (Ret’d) L. (Tex) Leugner

The 50th Anniversary Reunion for members of the Original Apprentice Training Program will be held in Kingston, Ontario on the weekend of 19, 20, 21 22 of September, 2003. All Ex-Apprentices and Apprentice Company Officers and NCMs are welcome and encouraged to attend.

For more information and costs please contact L. (Tex) Leugner at:

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CFSEME HOSTS 39TH ANNUAL EME GOLF TOURNAMENT

By: Mrs H. Rowen, CFSEME

The 39th Annual EME Golf Tournament was held at Circled Pine Golf Club, Canadian Forces Base Borden 9 - 11 August 2002. The Tournament consisted of a Meet and Greet held at Circled Pine Golf Course on 7 August 2002, a Banquet on 8 August 2002 and two days of golfing 8 and 9 August 2002. Approximately 112 golfers (EME personnel, retired EME members and corporate sponsors) were in attendance.



WW II Senior's Trophy
Mr Ken Potter receiving Trophy from Mr Al Stephens

The weather cooperated and all golfers enjoyed two beautiful days of sunshine. During the evening of 8 August 2002, prizes were given out to top golfers of the day as follows: Low Gross (Male - Chris Parris, Female Sue Wehling); Closest to the Pin (Pin #7 Mark German), (Pin #17 Frank Lamoureux), Closest to the Centre Line (Male Ken McGowan, Female Shirley Purdy), Closest to the Hole (Pin #11 Gail Youden), Most Honest (Male Robert Jardine, Female Sue Eastaugh). Ken Potter was once again the winner of the WWII Vets Seniors Trophy.

On Friday, all golfers received prizes for participating in the Tournament.

During the final prize presentations, special mention was made of two teams: Highest Score and Lowest Score. The prizes for Highest Score went to Richard Mawdsley, Frederic Pichette, Oak Gray and Robert Jardine. Lowest Score winners were Lloyd Savery, Ed Wilson, Ron Bateman and Maurice Bartlett.

Other prize winners included MWO Keith James - winner of the Michelin Tire Ticket Draw; he received four tires for a maximum value of $1,000, WO (Retired) Brian McAllister, EME Bottle Holder with 40lb Gibson's Whisky and Pte Kouri, EME Horse Embroidered Print. Dave Laffradi was the winner of the Putting Contest, he took home $160.

The Committee would also like to thank Gary Corriveau and Jim Scott of Circled Pine Golf Course for their support of this event.

55 SVC BN SUPPORTS UNITED WAY

By: MWO D. Levesque, 55 Svc Bn

Once again as in past years, 55 Svc Bn was asked to participate in the annual campaign for United Way and as usual, Maint Coy was involved 100%. The unit's objective was to raise $400.00. Maint Coy did not hesitate to put into place a plan of action, in order to ensure that the Bn could reach its objective.

MCpl Martin Larochelle volunteered as the unit OPI. He set up an outstanding team of representatives from all Coys for a single day of fund raising activities. Tpt Coy, steered by Adj Truchon, was responsible for the car wash. Svcs Coy, headed by Sgt Jolicoeur, had the mission of establishing canteen operations. Maint Coy, under Cpl Tremblay (her second year), commanded the tire-changing clinic. The MP Pl, under Lt Roy, challenged the bad weather by establishing a daylong roadblock on Blvd Charest. We suspect however, that Lt Roy may have used the unit's 9 mms in order to obtain the $2000.00 that was collected.

LCol Fraser, our CO, was very proud to have given MCpl Larochelle the responsibility of organizing the day's activities. The Bn once again proved that it could make a difference when all the sleeves were rolled up. Maint coy alone collected $1800! It is with pleasure that 55 Svc Bn handed the sum of $4100.00 to a local community organization, St Vincent de Paul in St Malo, which was far in excess of the initial objective.

Duty above all.



Cpl Rhéaume (5 GS Bn) and Pte Latulipe (55 Svc Bn)

CFB WINNIPEG
9TH ANNUAL MIXED MESS DINNER AND DANCE

By: MCpl J. Allen, CFB Winnipeg

On 9 May 2002, 17 Wing EME hosted the 9th Annual All Ranks EME Mixed Mess Dinner. Both military and civilian employees of the EME Branch in CFB Winnipeg, along with invited guests, attended the event. The Guest of Honour was our Col Cmdt, Col M.C. Johnston accompanied with the EME Branch Chief, CWO G. Roy. A special welcome was extended to all former Base Maint O of 17 Wing EME Workshop. The meal was well received and enjoyed by those in attendance; however, during some of the speeches, there were attacks of tongue twisting, memory lapses, and confusion. All of this was met with laughter, helpful comments and catcalls from those in attendance. One of the formalities for the evening was the presentation of the Branch Advisor's Regional Award to Cpl Alex Urquhart. Cfn Tom Hicks was also presented with his first hook after being informed he was out of dress. The presence of Col Johnston and CWO Roy was greatly appreciated by all for the wealth of knowledge and history they shared in conversations with military and civilian guests alike. At the closing of the dinner, Col Johnston thanked the PMC, WO Ken Osborne and his team for a great meal and the fine event he had organized. The PMC then invited everyone to retire downstairs for dancing and refreshments. In all, this year's Annual Mixed Mess Dinner and Dance was a huge success providing great enjoyment.

CFSEME COMMEMORATES THEIR OWN

By: Capt I.R. Koss, CFSEME



On 10 Nov 02, a contingent of 34 personnel, staff and students from CFSEME converged on the City of Kingston to participate in 11 Nov Remembrance Day Services. They formed Guard Number 2 on the four Guard parade, which took place at the RCEME Gates. As Kingston was the birthplace of EME training, then RCEME, the significance of CFSEME participating cannot be understated and was greatly appreciated by veterans and retirees who were in attendance. Capt Mills commanded the Guard, MWO James was Guard CSM and a wreath was laid on behalf of the School Commandant by WO Norton and Craftsman Lawrence. Services were conducted by the RCEME Padre, Reverend Chisholm and were followed by a reception for all parade participants and spectators.

SPORTS AWARDS FOR YEAR 2001

LFWA	Bonspiel	$200.00
LFAA	Bonspiel	$200.00
LFCA	Bonspiel	$200.00
AIRCOM	Sports Day	$150.00
CFRETS	Golf	$200.00
LFQA	Golf	$200.00
LFWA	Golf	$200.00
CFRETS	Hockey	$200.00
NCR	Hockey	$110.00
TOTAL	31 DEC 01	$1660.00

SPORTS AWARDS FOR YEAR 2002

LFWA	Bonspiel / Golf	$600.00
LFAA	Bonspiel	$400.00
LFCA	Hockey	$400.00
AIRCOM	Sports Day	$200.00
CFSEME	Golf	$400.00
LFQA	Golf / Hockey	$800.00
CFSTG	Hockey	$400.00
NCR	Hockey	$140.00
TOTAL	31 DEC 02	$3340.00

SPORTS AWARDS FOR YEAR 2003

LFCA	Bonspiel	$400.00
LFWA	Bonspiel	$400.00
TOTAL	28 Feb 03	$800.00

DEPLOYED EME PERSONNEL CELEBRATE BRANCH BIRTHDAY WITH THE 1ST ANNUAL SOUTH WEST ASIA 500

By: Capt H. Harty, 1 GS Bn

Canada's commitment to the fight against terrorism meant EME Day for deployed NSU personnel would have a different meaning. As members of the EME Branch, we are accustomed to coming together as a family for friendly competition, socializing, food and drink. This year's birthday would have a different twist but nonetheless was celebrated in style. Prior to the birthday, MCpl Holmes of EME Flt collected money from EME personnel at Camp Mirage. On the morning of 15 May, Country Fried Chicken was purchased and personally escorted by MCpl Holmes to EME personnel in Kandahar via CC130 Herc. There was plenty of chicken for all Battle Group EME pers and friends. Our thoughts were with them as they were enduring many hardships and would have to celebrate when they returned to Canada.



Left to Right: Cpl Dave Remus, MCpl Al Badcock, WO John Crisby, Lt Hazen Harty, Sgt Richard Desjardins, MCpl Mike Simic, Cpl Dave Muir, MCpl Brian Holmes

On the same morning at dawn, Camp Mirage was honored as a flag party raised the EME Flag. The Flag Party consisting of Lt Harty, MCpl Badcock, Dave Muir, and MCpl Brian Holmes marched with EME pride to raise the Canadian Flag, Host Nation flag and the ever so beautiful EME Flag. On looking EME pers (saluting) included: LCol Karen Ritchie, WO John Crisby, Sgt Richard Desjardins, MCpl Mike Baker and Cpl Dave Remus. The flag flew over Camp Mirage for the remainder of the day. It was quite the honor for our Air Force companions. Celebrations were postponed due to operational commitments.

On 23 May, Sgt Richard Desjardins, eager to demonstrate his vast knowledge of car racing arranged a day of Go Kart racing. Nobody doubted his experience as he vocally told many of his driving expertize. This became a prime example of the difference between talking about how great you are and not having a good day of racing. A total of 4 hours of racing were followed by an evening of local food and limited drinks. LCol Karen Ritchie missed the activities as she supposedly was busy or as we believe it, afraid to drive with the boys. WO Percy Ross was home on HLTA. WO John Cribsy was voted most likely not to be invited back next year as he had a accident in each race including totaling a power pole and destroying a rear axle in the last race. In a total of four races, Lt Hazen Harty won the first one, MCpl Mike Simic won one and MCpl Al Badcock won the following two thus gaining the bragging rights of Champion EME driver South West Asia for 2002. Sgt Richard Desjardins was awarded the booby prize.

Although on operation, we were very fortunate to celebrate our Branch Birthday. I would like to thank the EME Flt for organizing these festivities. Our Branch Birthday is an important day to all of us and thus should never go unrecognized. Cheers to all and especially those in Afghanistan.

Arte et Marte



Saluting: LCol Karen Ritchie, WO John Crisby, Sgt Richard Desjardins, MCpl Mike Baker and Cpl Dave Remus

EME BRANCH (AREA) REPS

POSITION	NAME	POSITION	NAME
NCR	CWO J.D.A. Vass	LFWA	MWO. D. St. Jean
AIRCOM	CWO T. Rumbolt	LFQA	Maj D.J.M.J. Janelle
LFCA	Cpl M.P. Bidal	LFAA	Capt J.M. Charest
EME (A) PRESIDENT	Maj (Ret'd) G. McCulloch	CFSTG	CWO A.C. Dalcourt
RCEME (A) PRESIDENT	CWO (Ret'd) A.E. Rest		

EME BRANCH ACTIVE AT LFQA

By: WO J.R.F. Vandal, 5 GS Bn

For many years, the EME staff of Valcartier has made great efforts to keep the EME Branch very active. An EME Regimental Committee of LFQA was formed some time ago that comprised as its directing body, senior EME personnel from every unit. A quarterly meeting is held to inform all EME members of relevant information about the Branch and to plan Branch activities.



In spring of 2002, the conference room of Bldg 324, the Home Station of our Regimental Committee, modernized itself with some paint and new decorations. Furthermore, the members of the Branch officialized the opening of the room by naming this room after the Branch's patron saint, St-Jean de Brébeuf.



To remind us of our history, there are very highly regarded EME Branch artifacts displayed in our Arms Room that date back to the Second World War. Recently, we took possession of the tunic of CWO (Ret'd) Bernie Dionne, MMM, CD, which he wore upon initial enrolment to RCEME. This same style of tunic was also issued to RCEME in the fifties. Also in our possession is a restored Theodolite for meteorology dating from 1950.

Several persons involved in the various projects and activities will say to you that the task seems sometimes arduous but that the efforts are rewarding thanks to an ever-growing participation of EME members in LFQA.

During your next visit to Valcartier, the Regimental Committee of LFQA invites you to make a small tour of Bldg 324 to visit the St-Jean de Brébeuf room and to also visit the Arms Room.

"EME STORM RISING"

By: WO A. Rose, MCE Ottawa

Members of the Mapping and Charting Establishment (MCE) world are not entirely sure what to expect from their Tech Maint WO. To some he is a threat, yet to others he is a means of spinal support. Yet no one fears him. Why? You see, as an outsider with a different cap badge, the Horse, and one of a kind in the Unit, it is common knowledge that he isn't part of the promotional food chain.

However, with the coming of the dawn of the new era, so will change. Fear will finally set in for "The EME Storm" is rising.

The relaxed attitudes towards the care, operation and operator maintenance of MCE equipment has abruptly come to an end. Everyone is coming to the realization that they are accountable for their actions and especially their equipment. Personnel blaming others, especially the Tech WO, for the inoperability of their kit, has created a storm, which grew stronger and stronger. Yet, they did not know that this passing of blame could have been avoided by the completion of a simple condition tag, informing the immediate supervisor of the fact, and passing the equipment over to the tech for immediate repair. It was only then that they finally realized that the tech is no psychic.

Needless to say, this equipment is well taken care of under the EME realm.

There was however, another storm, much larger, yet still not visible over the horizon. It was coming and fast in the form of the MCE fleet of SMP vehicles. They (MCE) were the ones to rebuke for this turmoil. Once the remaining Geomatic SEVs and Generator trailers returned from their upgrades, all SMP vehicles were assigned to personnel who now became responsible for them which meant proper operator maintenance, proper loads for taskings, taking them on road moves and most important of all, advising the Tech Maint WO of their serviceability. For some reason this had not been done and vehicles were breaking down due to lack of use and care. Things have changed now, the winds are steady but the white caps still remain. The EME Storm has risen and is here to stay. With these new changes in effect, MCE can ride out this storm, as long as they continue to take care of their equipment.

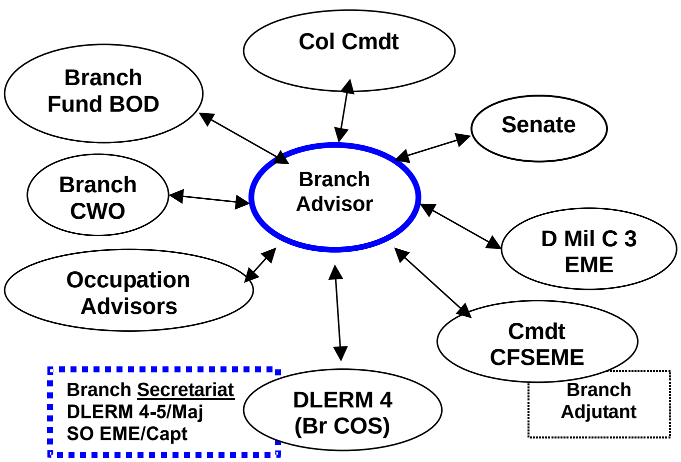
The end result will reflect favourably upon, if not one of Canada's most effective and efficient Units, MCE.

Arte et Marte "By Skill and By Fighting".

THE BRANCH STAFF AND WHAT THEY DO

By: Capt M. Jennings (SO EME)

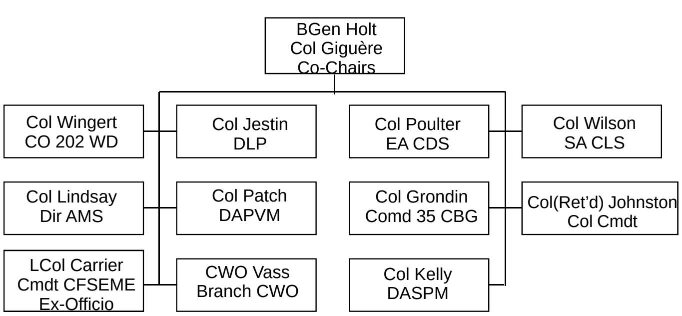
You may sometimes wonder why we, in the EME Branch, are always flying our flag and putting our colours everywhere. Well, there is a good reason why we do this - it helps to inspire us (EME) to do our best wherever we are and under all conditions. And because "EME is where the action is" others see what a difference our strong Esprit de Corps and regimental spirit can do. But building and maintaining that regimental spirit and ensuring that the right people, the right tools, the right training, and the right parts are available where needed, takes time and effort, and this requires a Branch focused headquarter structure capable of synchronizing the plethora of policies and initiatives to ensure a coherent Branch framework. This headquarter structure is called the Branch Staff which is what this article is all about.



The Branch Staff is composed of committees, functional groups, and individuals who advise the Branch Advisor in their functional areas of responsibilities. The Branch Advisor, as the focal point for the EME Branch, uses this advice to develop new policies and to raise Human Resource (HR) issues with our Managing Authority (MA) for resolution. Elements of the Branch Staff meet twice a year to prepare the Branch for the EME Annual Military Occupation Review (AMOR) and to staff recommendations to the Senate for decision-making. The AMOR deals with human resource issues such as: Recruiting; Education and Training, Employment, Recognition, Retention, Occupations, Reserves, Regimental Esprit de Corps and HR policy development.

The Branch Staff includes the following Branch members and is grouped as follows.

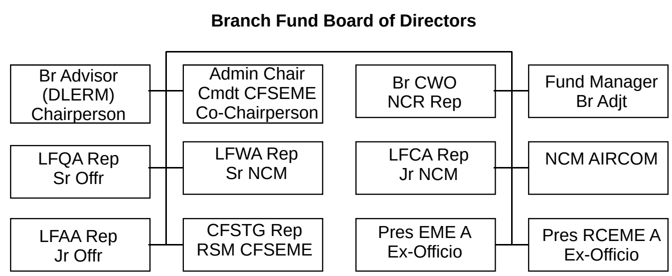
The Branch Advisor (Col J.C.M. Giguère) is the head of the EME Branch and as such, is a focal point for personnel matters within the EME Branch. He represents the interests of all EME Branch members and is responsible for the EME Strategic Management and Communication Plans. He also provides advice to ADM HR-Mil on Branch HR issues. The Branch Advisor also co-chairs the EME Senate with DGLEPM and is Chairperson of the EME Branch Fund Executive Board of Directors (BOD).



The Branch Chief Warrant Officer (CWO J.D.A. Vass) represents the interests of all EME Non-Commissioned Members (NCM) with respect to Branch matters including dress, ceremonial, training, employment and other issues of concern to EME Branch Staff. He is the senior advisor on NCM issues within the EME Branch and is a member of the EME Senate and the Branch Fund BOD.

The Branch Colonel Commandant (Col (Ret'd) M.C. Johnston) represents the interests of all EME Branch members, both serving and retired. He is respected throughout the Branch as the link between the current Branch members and the RCEME, LORE, LEME and EME traditions of the past. He advises the EME Branch Advisor on issues including dress, ceremonial, training, and employment, and is a member of the EME Senate.

The Branch Adjutant (Capt B.M. Cook) represents the interests of all EME Branch Fund members. He is the principal staff officer responsible to the EME Branch Fund BOD through the Administrative Committee Chairperson (Cmdt CFSEME) for the management of EME Branch Fund activities. His primary responsibilities include the production of the EME Journal, EME Calendar, Anniversary Button, management of the Branch Fund and Branch Website.



The EME Senate meets twice yearly to provide strategic governance. It is guided (but not commanded) by the Branch Advisor. The Senate includes all serving Regular and Reserve Force Generals and Colonels with EME background, the Branch CWO and the Col Cmdt. The Cmdt CFSEME is an ex-officio member. However, the EME Senate is significantly different from most professional associations, such as the Association of Professional Engineers of Ontario (APEO), in that the EME Senate is an appointment by rank and position and membership is not voluntary.

The Commandant CFSEME (LCol J.G.D. Carrier) is responsible for EME specific training for all EME officers and NCMs. He is uniquely positioned to combine the technical requirements of 43 and 400 series Occupation Specifications along with EME Branch vision for Officers and NCMs of the future and translate these into a training program, which produces highly effective soldiers and leaders. LCol Carrier is also Chairperson of the Administration Committee for the EME Branch Fund, an ex-officio member of the Senate and President of the Officers' Fund.

The Occupation Advisors are appointed by the Branch Advisor. They provide a crucial link between the Branch Advisor and the NCMs of the Branch. Their role is to advise on a wide variety of issues (i.e. training, recruiting, equipment and tooling) in their specific occupation.

Director Military Careers 3 EME (Maj S. Siegrist) and staff (3 senior NCMs) are responsible for advising on Officer and NCM personnel management and career issues.

Director Land Equipment Resource Managment 4 (LCol S. Myers) is the principal staff officer (read Branch Chief of Staff) and is responsible to the EME Branch Advisor for EME Branch Secretariat operations and the management of all EME Branch staff activities.

The Secretariat's role is to assist the EME Branch Advisor in the conduct of their assigned functions and provide a focal point for the coordination of Branch related activities. DLERM 4-5 (Maj S.D. Campbell) is the primary Secretariat staff officer. DLERM 4-8 (Capt M.A. Jennings) is also double-hatted as SO EME. Together these two positions compose the Secretariat.

The EME Branch Fund. The aim is to provide a structure for the betterment of the EME Branch throughout the Canadian Forces. For more information on the Branch Fund, see the Branch links at the end of this article to the Branch Fund Constitution. The aim of the Branch Fund will be accomplished through the following objectives:

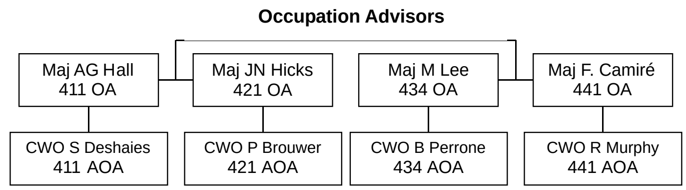
a. to foster, maintain and promote the well-being of individuals of the EME Branch and the EME Branch as a whole;
b. to perpetuate and recognize the bonds of comradeship and Esprit de Corps within the EME Branch;
c. to encourage and support public interest in the EME Branch;
d. to assist in the preservation of the traditions, memorabilia and customs of the EME Branch; and
e. to enhance the operation of the EME Kit Shop for the betterment of all members of the Branch.

The following benefits shall be offered to Branch Fund members:

a. fund accoutrement requirements for QL3 and Phase II graduating students;
b. provide educational awards in the form of bursary\scholarship;
c. provide discounts at EME Kit Shop Outlets to Fund members;
d. provide benevolent loans and hardship grants;
e. provide sports awards in the way of reduced rates for Branch sponsored events; and
f. provide educational short-term loans.

The EME Branch Fund shall also:

a. provide for recognition of Branch members;
b. provide funds to accommodate the maintenance of the EME Artifacts, Memorabilia, 50th Monument and the RCEME Gates; and
c. other events/requirements that are in the best interest of the EME Branch as directed by the Executive Board of Directors.



Branch links:

DGLEPM:
http://admmat.dwan.dnd.ca/dglepm/dglepm/index_e.htm

Branch Staff:
http://admmat.dwan.dnd.ca/dglepm/dlerm/dlerm%204/ (no space) plans_branch/eme_branch/staff/index_e.htm

Home Branch:
http://borden.mil.ca/eme/english/index_e.htm

EME Forum:
http://borden.mil.ca/eme/english/forum_e.htm

Branch Fund Constitution
http://borden.mil.ca/eme/english/fund/constitution_e.doc

QINETIQ PRIZE AWARDED TO CAPT FITZPATRICK AT RMCS SHRIVENHAM JULY 2002

By: LCol H. Litjens, ILSM, PMO LAV

The Defence Evaluation and Research Agency (DERA) of the United Kingdom has been sponsoring the "QinetiQ" Prize, which is awarded yearly to the Outstanding Student on the System Engineering for Defence course. This year, one of our own received the award for being the top student of his class, Capt Fitzpatrick from DGLEPM Ottawa.

On 26 July 2002, Capt Fitzpatrick received the Outstanding Achievement Award during a ceremony held in Shrivenham, UK. Capt Kevin Fitzpatrick completed his Masters of Science Degree in Systems Engineering for Defence at the Royal Military College of Science (RMCS) in 2000/2001. He now uses his new found knowledge as the Maintenance Planner for the LAV III in PMO LAV in Ottawa.

The team at DGLEPM would like to congratulate Capt Fitzpatrick for his terrific achievement and for allowing the Canadian EME Badge to be acknowledged in front of an international stage at RMCS.

ARTE ET MARTE



Capt Fitzpatrick receiving his prize from Professor Phil John; Director Systems Engineering for Defence

DO NOT READ THIS!

By: (HR Mil) D Mil C 3

There you go! Works every time. Now that I have your attention, let's talk about two very important Officer programs. Commissioning From the Ranks Plan (CFRP) and Special Requirements Commissioning Plan (SRCP). For some, they are alike but in fact they differ. Both programs have one thing in common; they promote the use of Sr NCM's experience into the Officer corps, something the EME Branch cannot do without. Take note that these two programs are not aimed at the same people. The following is an extract of CFAO, which, I hope, will assist you to better understand the aim of both programs. As leaders, we must promote these two essential venues to obtain the best Officers corps possible.

CFRP

The purpose of the CFRP is to provide a source of Officers for the Regular Force to augment the number of Officers commissioned through other plans. It cannot be over-stressed that the CFRP applies exclusively to those who have acquired a level of military experience, and above all, are considered to possess the necessary personal qualities and attributes to make them suitable for employment as officers. Technical or administrative competence alone is no guarantee that an individual has the characteristics required and needed to become a successful officer. Other qualities such as the desire and ability to lead, mature judgment, personal integrity, breadth of outlook and interests, and demonstrated motivation for continuing personal growth are also essential.

The CFRP is a nomination program in the literal sense; members are not invited to apply for commissioning. The onus is on COs to identify potential nominees through personal knowledge or on the advice of their Unit Officers. The potential candidates performance must have been viewed over a substantial period with a consideration for nomination when the annual program is announced by NDHQ. Nothing less will ensure that the best available nominees are brought forward in a given year. To be eligible for nomination under the CFRP a member shall:

a. be a Canadian citizen;
b. have a minimum of 10 years service in the Canadian Forces (CF) Regular Force by the closing date for nomination;
c. be of the substantive rank of Sergeant/Petty Officer Second Class or above;
d. have at least the minimum required years of service remaining to compulsory retirement age (CRA) for the proposed Officer Military Occupation Classification (MOC) by 31 Dec of the year in which the selection board is convened. This minimum number of years will be specified in the annual competition message;
e. for the appropriate officer MOC, have a minimum medical category awarded/confirmed within the 12 months prior to the closing date for nomination;
f. achieve acceptable standing in the General Classification test administered by the Base Personnel Selection Officer; and
g. possess a Grade 12 diploma (Secondary V in Quebec) or an equivalency certificate based on education equivalency testing.

A CFRP Selection Board will be convened annually at NDHQ to review all nominations and select the best nominees to meet the various officer MOC quotas. Selection criteria are based on performance and an assessment of potential. Nominees will be advised, through their CO, of their selection status as soon as board results are available.

Members who successfully satisfy the requirements for commissioning will be commissioned and promoted in accordance with CFAO 11-6, Commissioning and Promotion Policy -- Officers --Regular Force. Terms of Service (TOS) will be converted to an OCDP IE. Pending basic MOC training, they will be employed within their MOC as any other Officer. They will be considered like all other with regards to career courses and chances of promotion.

Overall, this program permits deserving Sr NCMs to pursue a career in the military as officer under a pre-determine MOC.

SRCP

The purpose of the SRCP is to provide a means of commissioning Officers for the Regular Force to meet the special and limited needs of the MOCs. This plan differs from the CFRP in that candidates commissioned under the SRCP will not receive MOC training and will have only limited employment and advancement opportunities within the Officer corps due to their short period of remaining service. It allows the CF to profit from the extensive skill and experience of senior NCMs who are within a few years of their CRA. Coincidentally, it may provide an opportunity for further career advancement for selected deserving CWOs. The SRCP applies exclusively to those who have acquired a high level of military experience and who have clearly demonstrated the necessary personal attributes to make them suitable for employment as commissioned officers.

The SRCP is a nomination program. Members are not invited to apply for commissioning. Candidates will be identified for commissioning by NDHQ.

To be eligible for consideration under the SRCP a member shall:

a. be a Canadian citizen;
b. be of CWO rank (MWOs may be considered on an exceptional basis);
c. have not more than seven years nor less than four years service remaining to CRA age 55 on date of commissioning; and
d. have been awarded within the past 12 months at least the minimum medical category for the officer MOC for which the member is being nominated. Members with a medical category below that required for the appropriate MOC may be considered if found suitable for employment without restrictions by the Officer Career Medical Review Board.

Selected members will be commissioned and promoted to the rank of Captain. Further promotion will be in accordance with CFAO 11-6. Members who are commissioned as General Service Officers will have their service converted to a Special Indefinite Period of Service (IPS) in accordance with CFAO 49-9.

SRCP Officers will not be given Officer MOC training but may be required to complete limited job related training.

Summary

Again, although both programs are aimed at using the expertize of Sr NCMs into the Officer corps, it must be understood that these programs are different. As a CFR, a member becomes eligible to all the normal benefits for career advancement in competition with his peers. In the SRCP program, the member will be promoted to Captain, will be offered a very specific position within his own Branch and MOC and will serve there until retirement up to a maximum of 7 years of remaining service. Because of this fact and due to the new policy extending CRA from 55 to 60 years of age, D Mil C has decreed that no SRCP demand would be considered and approved until the impact on the SRCP program is determined. Therefore, all on-going demands have been returned to their originators for re-submissions once the policy is establish.

Now, regardless of the new CRA policy, the EME community remain in great need of experienced Officers. We have been negligent in our duties to identify these deserving Sr NCMs. This year, only 7 nominations have been put forward for CFRP review out of a maximum of 8 available positions.

Let's get on with it! We are losing good opportunities to enhance our Officer corps with experienced personnel, and if looked at from an NCM's perspective, are losing good opportunities to create promotions within the Sr NCM ranks!

MUD, SOIL, SWEAT & GEARS
2 GS BN RECOVERY COURSE 0205

By: Sgt B.L. Westholm, 2 GS Bn

The EME Recovery Manual could not make the importance of recovery operations any clearer: "QUICK AND EFFICIENT RECOVERY WILL DENY ANY POSSIBLE USE BY THE ENEMY AND ASSIST IN GETTING EQUIPMENT BACK INTO ACTION WITH MINIMUM DELAY."

The 2 GS Bn Veh Tech QL 4 Rec crse is a three week event that builds upon the basic recovery skills learned on the QL 3 crse at CFSEME. Although it is primarily intended as a stage in the development of the Regular Force Vehicle Technician, it has also been used as refresher training for more senior ranks, Reservists and personnel from Bases without SMP recovery resources. This Rec crse is comprised of two weeks of equipment familiarization and maintenance, recovery safety and theory, followed by one week of field training. During the field training the Veh Techs put into practice all they have learned in the classroom. The emphasis is on vehicle extrication including straight, compound and indirect pulls… and mud, lots and lots of mud.

The crse is centered on the workhorse of the CF recovery fleet, the HLVW Recovery Vehicle. This "Wrecker" has a 14 ton capacity material handling crane mounted forward, and a "stinger", a hydraulic hoist that folds out from the lower rear of the truck to lift a vehicle casualty into a suspended towing position. It can suspend-tow most vehicles in the SMP range, including the AVGP Family. A 25 ton capacity winch is mounted amidship in the body, with a smaller auxiliary winch mounted on the stinger boom. Two hydraulically actuated extendable earth spades are mounted at the lower rear. Overall, the HLVW "Wrecker" is a remarkable piece of equipment and when employed correctly can accomplish amazing feats.



Left to Right:
Back: Cpl Walsh, Cpl Parsons (Instructor), Cpl Henderson (Instructor), Cfn Smith, Cpl MacDonald (Instructor), Cpl Somerville, MCpl Merrill, Cfn Hannell
Front: Cfn Nieforth, Cfn Tucker, Cpl Nolin, Cfn Pilon, Cpl Howe, Cfn Wells



Cfn Wells (left), MCpl Merrill (facing), and Cfn Nieforth erect rigging

The biggest testament to the ability of the HLVW Wrecker, and that of the students, was the final mission to extricate a well-sunk Leopard tank using just one Wrecker. There were some on the crse who were skeptical that this could be accomplished, which was understandable as there was more Leopard underground than above. (This "well-sunk" situation was due in part to the initiative of one of the instructors, Cpl Henderson, in conjunction with the Base Fire Hall who kindly added a few thousand litres of water to the recovery site.) When the final calculations were done, it was found that a 4:1 mechanical advantage would be required to multiply the force of the main winch enough to extract the tank. Using another HLVW as an anchor, the students of Rec Crse 0205 began rigging their tackle. One hour, and many metres of cable later, the Crew Chief (MCpl Merrill) gave the signal to take in cable. Under the watchful eyes of the instructors, crse members and the two honored guests, the DCO and the RSM, the main winch took up the strain and the Leopard began its slow, steady climb out of the abyss. Some minutes later the vehicle was completely free and on firm(er) ground.

The ability to put battle winning equipment, such as a Leopard tank, back into the fight as soon as possible is an important task of the EME Branch. The personnel who graduated Rec Crse 0205 take with them the knowledge and skills necessary to accomplish this mission. Well done to all.

Many thanks go to Mr. Dave Mask of the Base Fire Hall and Sgt Farr and Tpr Keith of the Royal Canadian Dragoons for providing the assistance to pull off a memorable recovery.

NAVAL DISPLAY BUS - TEME HALIFAX

By: CWO F. MacLean and MWO E. Gilson, TEME Halifax

The initial concept for a mobile “Naval Display” vehicle was born from a need to significantly improve Navy Recruiting. A committee was established and chaired by the Navy, which included as main players N11, Formation Pers Svcs and N41 Formation Logistics including Transport and Electrical and Mechanical Engineering (TEME), and Formation Imaging. Their task was to determine if such a project could be accomplished utilizing in-house resources, limited funding and a tight deadline. A consensus was that MARLANT was up for the task.

A surplus 40 pax Blue Bird bus was selected as the vehicle of choice and work commenced in Feb 00. The details of what environmental images to be depicted on the interior and exterior were left to N11 and the expertize of Formation Imaging. The work of preparing the bus was left to TEME. This proved to be extremely complicated and challenging considering the bus had to be self-sufficient, a “stand alone” with its own power supply and crew compartment, a necessity that quickly proved its worth. Bringing this bus to a serviceable and reliable condition, while stripping the interior and effecting body and paint repairs, was an exercise in cooperation, coordination and resource utilization for all TEME sections. Between Veh Repair, Body and Paint, FCS, LCIS and Non-Tech Workshop, the bus was made ready within the allotted time (late May 00) and on budget. No small feat considering the many unique complications that arose. A floor plan had to be developed that would accommodate various fixed audio and visual displays and six computer stations, give the feel of a warship interior, ensure visitor comfort and safety and prevent crowding. It must be understood that there were no other prototypes available that could be used as a template or for general comparison.

The end result was a mobile display vehicle that was not only an “eye catcher” but proved to be extremely popular with the public. It was a source of pride for MARLANT and all Units involved with its creation. The dedication, professionalism and skills of the TEME personnel were second to none. All this goes to prove once again, whether our soldier technicians are attached to the Navy, Air Force or in the Field, when called upon, EME Workshops pull together in a mission orientated for outstanding results.



Back Row: MCpl Saunderson, Mr Fitzgerald, MCpl Degruchy, MCpl Beauvais, Mr Hewitt, Cpl Strachan, Mr Wilson, Mr Denny, Mr Janes, Mr Daley, CWO MacLean
Front Row: Mr Harnish, WO Slaunwhite, Mr Davis, MCpl Wrixon, Mr Misiner, Cpl Burns

THE EME FORUM (TECH TALK/CHAT LINE)

The EME Forum is an on line discussion medium accessible through the EME Branch Web Site (http://borden.mil.ca/eme/english/members_e.htm). This media may be used to discuss any topic and the person may remain anonymous; however, the Branch Adjutant retains the right to edit or remove any substance deemed offensive. Use the link above to view articles of discussion to date.

WHAT'S IN A TIE?

By: Col (Ret'd) M.C. Johnston, Col Cmdt

Have you ever wondered from where our EME Branch (Br) Tie originated; when we got it or how many different ones have we had? You could even ask why do we bother having Br ties? Well the answers to those and other similar questions are all "tied" up in a long story that dates back to the mid 1960s during the heyday of the RCEME Corps. At that time, we were an Army Corps developing the regimental paraphernalia of a Regiment. Some of you may recall the RCEME Corps Instructions, which outlined specifications for our RCEME lanyard, flag, belt buckle, tie, etc?

The RCEME Corps Tie was available to all ranks and was royal blue slashed diagonally with gold and scarlet stripes. It was similar to the REME tie, which is still in use today.

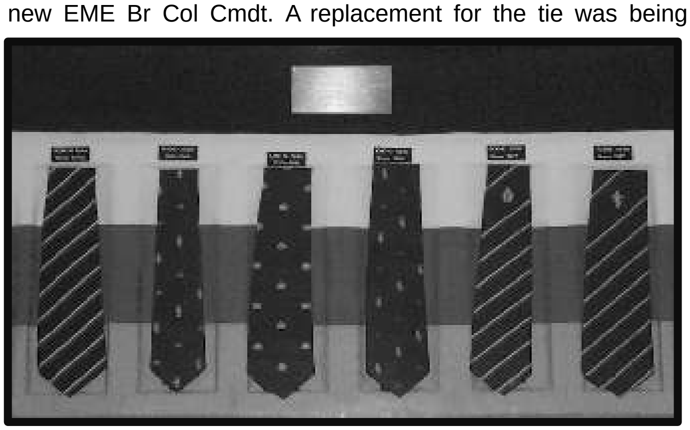
Then, somewhere along the line, someone conceived the idea that there should also be an Officers' tie, which of course would be different from the "All Ranks" tie. I was informed of this one day in 1965 when all officers of 4 Fd Wksp, RCEME were called into the office of our CO, Maj Percy Bateson. He described the new RCEME Officers' tie. It was to be royal blue spotted with miniature maple leaves in scarlet and replicas of our RCEME collar dogs in gold. Orders were taken and a short while later I received my new RCEME Officer's tie. I wear it on occasion as an alternate to my RCEME Corps tie.

In 1968 RCEME was disbanded, and a few years later, a new LORE Branch Tie was introduced. This tie was midnight blue and spotted with miniature gold replicas of our LORE badge now embossed with the Wankel engine. I dutifully bought one, wore it and sorrowfully put my RCEME ties at the back of my tie rack where they stayed - unused but not forgotten.

In 1978 an intrepid group of RCEME retirees inaugurated the RCEME Association. Camaraderie was one of their aims. Another aim was to keep the RCEME name and image alive. One of the items that they developed was the RCEME Association tie. This tie was modeled after the old RCEME All Ranks Tie. It was dark blue slashed diagonally with red and yellow stripes. The difference is that twelve inches from the bottom in a dark blue section there was a RCEME badge. There were even two versions of this; one had a replica in gold of the original "three shield" badge and the other had a RCEME Horse badge. These ties are still worn today by Association members.

In the fall of 1991, we were still basking in the afterglow of "getting the Horse back". Everyone was proud to have been part of the badge changing ceremonies that spring in which we were rebadged from the LORE Wankel badge to our current EME Horse badge. One thing these ceremonies had unleashed, however, was a great surge of EME Br spirit. As a result, there were great urges to put an end to “Wankelism” i.e. replace the LORE Wankel badge on everything we had with a new EME Horse badge - and this included our Br tie.

That fall, I attended my first EME Senate meeting as the new EME Br Col Cmdt. A replacement for the tie was being



The Branch Ties

rumbled on about. The Br Adv, BGen Bob Fischer and I had a small talk. I showed him my old RCEME Officers' tie. He liked the idea. So we had to devise a scheme to "sell" the idea to the rest of the EME Senate.

Col Butch Boucher was enlisted as the salesman. So he came to the Senate meeting with a shopping bag full of ties including his old RCEME Officers' Tie. When the time came to discuss a new Br Tie, he took the lead and started pulling ties out of his bag. With each tie, he gave a short description followed by a comment on how unsuitable it was. Finally, he had only the old RCEME Officers' Tie left. He pulled it out with a flourish and BGen Fischer, on cue, commented, "Horse and Leaves. That's for us!" And so the decision was taken!

The problem now was production and who would volunteer his old RCEME Officer’s Tie, soon to be a collector's item, as a model for the new one. Butch's Tie was a bit worn and soup stained. Bob Fischer's tie could not be found. So my tie became the model.

In Jan 92 ,I went to Germany to visit CF Europe and participate in the CFE EME Bonspiel. I also wore my old RCEME Officers' Tie telling everyone that the new Br Tie would be modeled after it. I had a wonderful time including being the Guest of Honour at the WOs’ and Sgts’ luncheon. The host was CWO Serge Boutet. He had become so enamoured with my tie during my visit that I loaned it to him to wear and show the troops - and promote sales of the new tie when it became available.



The Col Cmdt Presents the Ties at CFSEME

In May I was back in CFE again for the EME Day celebrations. The new ties had just become available and I had bought several of the first batches to take with me as thank you presentations to those who helped me on the visit. The celebrations started with a parade which, as I recall, was a little depleted because the troops on the first rotation to the Former Republic of Yugoslavia had just departed.

On that parade were two Mat Techs, Cpls Bob Thompson and Ken Osborne. They had just returned from Normandy where they had affixed a RCEME Badge on the Memorial Tank at Coursuells-sur-mer, where the Canadians had landed on D-Day June 6, 1944. When the parade was over, I gathered a small group of hosts and helpers together and presented ties to each of them. The first ties went to the two Cpls and one also went to CWO Boutet - if only to get my own tie back!

This article mentions six ties. They reflect the development of our Br since the formation of RCEME in 1944. I have owned and worn all six. But recently, I have just given them to the Br. You can see them on your next visit to the EME Heritage Room in the School. Sgt Tony Beresford or MCpl Dan Ferland will be glad to point them out to you.

Arte et Marte

SHERMAN TANK PROJECT

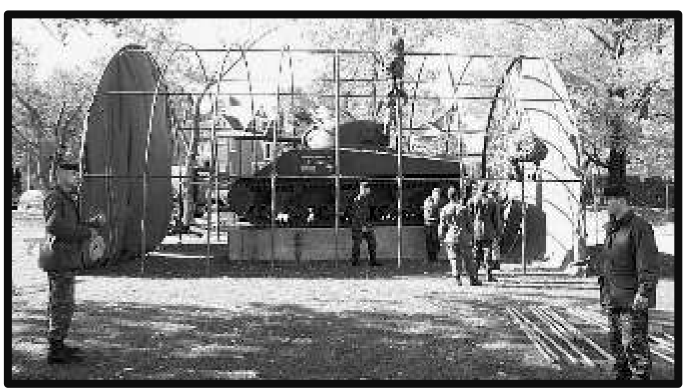
By: MCpl E. Tardif, 5 GS Bn

The 18th of Oct 02 could not have come soon enough. Months of organizing and re-organizing, from sanders to sandblasters and from hammers to disposable gloves; the project was finally ready to go. I compared it to standing in an aircraft waiting to jump; the pilot saying the winds are too high and we have to racetrack for the third time. By the time you are ready to jump, you have checked and re-checked several times and all you want to do is jump and get the waiting over with.



Before Picture

The Sherman tank project was like no other project I have ever experienced or hopefully will ever experience again. The aim of our project was to completely strip the old paint of a Sherman MK?? and repaint it. Not such an easy task considering that this particular Sherman was situated downtown, Sherbrooke, Quebec with winter fast approaching. We deployed from Valcartier at 0530 hrs 18 Oct 02. The complexity for this type of deployment required specific and detailed planning taking into account health, safety and environmental issues. All deployment issues unfolded without problems due to the hard work and dedication from the involved military personnel of 5 GS Bn Maint Coy Mat and Veh sections.



Frisky Set Up

The project did, however, have its share of problems with heaters and generators. If it wasn't for the technical support of the maintenance staff in Detachment Sherbrooke, we would still be there trying to keep the support equipment operational. This was a strong reminder on the importance of having continuous technical support for smooth operation in the field!! We started cautiously and slowly, chipping the entire turret with a ball peen hammer and a scrapper by hand (in cold conditions because of heater problems). However, this did not phase the troops because they knew for whom we were doing this, for the men who fought and died in past wars for our country.

By day 5, our heater and generator problems were solved and this became our first full day of uninterrupted production. We applied primer and paint to the turret, which had been completely stripped by hand. All were anxious to see how the hard work we had done looked like when finished. Having purchased new air breathing equipment, which had never been used in the field, it performed very well, and it did not permit any vapors to enter the operator's mask. At this point, after working for 8 days/14 hrs per day, we were ready for relief that soon arrived in the form of three Mat Techs from Valcartier who were there to give us a much needed break.

Refreshed and ready to commence work, air needle guns were used to speed up the process on the tank. This came with a price, the needle guns worked well but the compressors could not maintain the required 90 PSI required at 100% working pressure. The needle gun chipped the paint right down to the bare metal exposing the small but unique stamped markings that were not present on the tank prior to the restoration. Sandblasting would have blasted away these historical markings!! The tank was processed in 3 phases: the turret, the front, rear and top, and finally the sides, track and road wheels. Scaffolding was used due to the size of the tank, making it possible to apply primer and paint to the center, front and rear. The final phase began with the masking of the entire top portion of the tank including the turret, front and back. We primed and painted the bottom of the tank, which took us 17 hrs of continuous spraying to complete.

The assistance of the Sherbrooke Hussars who provided security at night and the help of the Sherbrooke Maint Det cannot be overlooked. Through the collaborative efforts of 35 CBG HQ, the Sherbrooke Hussars, 5 GS Bn and 5 Maint Coy, the finished product turned out better then we could have imagined. The Sherman tank could not have been done as professionally and in such a timely manner without the dedication from the Mat Techs involved, MCpl Tardif, Cpl Papineau and Cfn Cormier from 5 GS Bn, Valcartier. We are grateful to have been part of the restoration process for this tank and to be part of its history.

A special note for all the visiting VIPs listed below,Thank You!!

- Hon Col T.G. Gould MC CD, Hon Col Sher H
- Hon LCol J.R. Garneau
- LCol Sanderson, CO Sher H
- LCol Tetu, 35 CBG HQ
- LCol Cousineau, CO 5 GS Bn
- Maj (Ret'd) Edson Lyman Warner Q.M.(5) CD &x Bar
- Capt Tchernoff, A/G4, 35 CBG HQ
- CWO Rowell, RSM Sher H
- CWO Roy, RSM 5 GS Bn
- CWO (Ret'd) B.P. Bourque
- MWO Bonneville, G4 Maint, 35 CBG HQ



MCpl Tardif, Cpl Papineau and Cfn Cormier with the Completed Tank

EME A PRESENTATIONS

By: LCol (Ret'd) F.W. Chapman, EME A

The Kingston Chapter of EME Association made these presentations following the Chapter's Annual Meeting on 10 Oct 02. Col Johnston was presented a laser engraved Wooden Box with an inscription inside detailing his various efforts and successes in enhancing the EME Corps' image wherever he travels. Mrs Johnston was presented an engraved Medallion with Corps coloured ribbon for her untiring support in keeping the Col Cmdt prepared to go on his many trips.



BGen (Ret'd) K. McKibbin presents to Col (Ret'd) M.C. Johnston
a Memento of Appreciation



LCol (Ret'd) F.W. Chapman presenting Mrs Johnston with a Medalion



BGen (Ret'd) K. McKibbin, Col (Ret'd) M.C. Johnston, Mrs Johnston,
LCol (Ret'd) F.W. Chapman



Change of Command to the Incoming Chairman LCol (Ret'd) J. Morrision from
the Retiring Chairman LCol (Ret'd) F.W. Chapman

LOGIC PROBLEM "COLONEL COMMANDANT WORLD TOUR" (ISSUE # 2 2002)

Vicki is one of the five technicians who was considered to accompany the Colonel Commandant on his World Tour of EME deployed Units. Each technician has a different rank and comes from different Units across Canada. From the information provided below, determine the first and last name of each selected technician and their rank, their placing obtained in the selection process, and their Unit of origin.

- The five techs considered were Parker, the one who came from 12 RBC, Luc, the WO, and the 3rd place;
- The MCpl placed just ahead of the Pte;
- Bouchard placed just before Jean, who placed just before the MCpl (who is not from CFSEME);
- Péloquin placed just before Ralph, who placed just before the one who came from 4 AD Regt;
- Luc is from BEME Comox and April is not from CFB Shilo;
- The 3rd place tech is either Sgt White or Pte Parker; and
- The 5th place tech is either White or Parker.

ANSWERS

- ✓ WO April Péloquin of CFSEME won the selection to join the Col Comd.
- ✓ Sgt Ralph Bouchard of 12 RBC finished second.
- ✓ Pte Jean Parker of 4 AD Regt placed third.
- ✓ MCpl Vicki Philips from CFB Shilo is fourth.
- ✓ Cpl Luc White of BEME Comox is last.

CFSEME & CFCHSC PARTNERSHIP: A SUCCESS STORY…

By: Capt G. Olivier, CFSEME

Once again as in past years, two members of CFSEME were sent as augmented staff to spearhead the Chaplain Basic Offr Trg Course (ChBOTC) 0201. In Aug 02, Sgt Marc Bujold, a Cbt Arms Adv with Regt Coy and myself were detached to CFChSC as Military Trg Crse Director and Crse Warrant Officer. This task ended in early Dec 02 with a very successful graduation parade. Giving a little perspective to CFSEME's implication with the ChBOTC 0201 was a great experience for all, one that benefited Padre Officer candidates who are, as of now, already serving members across the CF. In fact, this greatly appreciated implication has been ongoing for the last five years; a success story…

The CFSEME and CFChSC partnership began in 98. At that time, it was decided that an Offr and a Sr NCM would be detached in support of the military trg aspect for Padre Officer candidate development. CFSEME members were tasked to provide general military knowledge and skills to Padre trainees in this, their only formal military and MOC trg prior to becoming qualified chaplains. In fact, in 98, EME members' expertize had proven to be so helpful that, every year since, the effort has been made to keep what has become an informal partnership. Many CFSEME members have participated in Padre Offr candidate trg; a significant contribution…

Facts submitted by Padre (Maj) S. Maurais, CFChSC CI. *"Since 1998, CFSEME has trained more than 53 chaplains of the CF Regular Force over an actual establishment of 151 serving Padres; more than 35% of our Branch future. In addition, a further 35 Padres from foreign countries have been trained as well. Bravo to CFSEME for its excellent expertize!"*

For the ChBOTC 0201, some tasks for CFSEME personnel were not only to teach leadership and military knowledge skills, but also to organize and supervise several field exercises that were designed to better monitor the candidates' progress and assess students on "Task Procedure". It is believed that one must have the basic leadership and understand the soldier's field living conditions and associated states of mind in order to become a Padre Offr… Moreover, one must earn the right to wear the uniform by embracing and complying with service requirements. CFSEME staff has succeeded in providing the trg and the learning environment for Chaplains to become just that…



In CFB Borden trg areas, Sgt M. Bujold (CFSEME Regt Coy Cbt Arms Adv (22)) is evaluating a Padre Officer candidate who is speaking in front of his syndicate while doing a task procedure during the ChBOTC 0201 of Fall 02

For many years now, by providing a great deal of military human resource expertize and experience, CFSEME and the EME Branch have helped the Chaplain Branch in fulfilling its duty to qualify serving CF Padre Offrs. A partnership that, since 98, has been a success story…

In Hoc Cinces (By the Sign, We Conquer)
Arte et Marte (By Skill and By Fighting)

EME BRANCH FUND SCHOLARSHIP AND BURSARY AWARDS 2002

The intent of this benefit is to promote a sense of community and to provide financial assistance to Fund members or their dependent towards the completion of a recognized Post-Secondary Education. For 2003, the EME Branch Fund may award up to four Scholarships and four Bursaries valued at $500.00 each for any year of academic Post-Secondary study. All members of the Fund are eligible to apply with a limit of a one-time lifetime award per applicant. Recipients of scholarships shall be awarded on the basis of scholastic ability and consideration for all around achievement. The recipients of bursaries shall be awarded on the basis of academic excellences, economic need and all around achievement. The student must have a Grade Point Average of 80% to qualify. For more information and application for awards, please visit the Branch Web Site at:
http://borden.mil.ca/eme/english/index_e.htm.

The annual cut off date for all applications is 30 June.

Scholarships
- Ms Belinda Cook
- Ms Kimberly Howlett
- Mr Joathan Leberge
- Ms Melanie Theriault

Bursary
- Ms Jennifer Boutilier
- Ms Jennifier McKeown
- Ms Kelly Sara Thompson
- Ms Natalie Turcotte



CWO Jutras, Maj Janelle, Mélanie Thériault, MWO Lévesque (ETQMS 3 R22eR)

IT'S WHAT RIGHT THAT COUNTS TOO

By: Col (Ret'd) M.C. Johnston, Col Cmdt

These days we're swamped with bad news about Canada's Armed Forces. Items about budget cuts, reductions in resources, spare parts shortages and over-stressed, over-worked troops et cetera fill TV screens and newspapers. It seems that everything is wrong. You might even wonder if anything is right. Well there is - particularly with the EME Branch. I see it everywhere I go and it counts too, much more than you might think.

Recently I heard a story about a farmer who had a very good horse who worked hard and did a good job. The farmer thought that he could cut the horse's rations a bit and still get the same amount of work out of him. So he did that and what do you know? The horse still produced as much. However, he creaked a bit at night and wasn't quite so chirp as he used to be after a day's work. The farmer repeated this several times. Each time the horse did a full day's work. But he wasn't happy. He was just plain tired all the time. Then one day he just collapsed and died.

Why did the farmer starve his horse? The answer is simple. He didn't want to invest resources in rations for his horse because he had other priorities. Why did the horse go on so long doing a good job with ever-decreasing rations? The answer is also simple. The things that were right about the horse kept him going, i.e. when things get tough, the tough get going. The moral of the story is that the horse is the Canadian Armed Forces and the farmer is the Canadian Government.

Now cracks are appearing in the system as shortages strangle training, equipment maintenance and hinder our ability to do our job properly. We are starting to see "slash and burn" type cuts that don't seem to make sense, e.g. cutting training resources just as urgently needed recruits are entering the system. We may even start to wonder if it will end up in the trash can soon. Focusing a bit on what the old EME Horse has been doing right, however, may help us to weather the storm and continue to do a good job.

This past year, the 3 PPCLI Battle Group performed magnificently in Afghanistan. Key to its success was LAV 3 and Coyote vehicles. Key to keeping those vehicles operational was the second-line FCS MRT which went well beyond its normal permissive schedule in keeping the electronic suite operational in the face of sand, wind and extreme heat. The Battle Group was loaned some USA Hummer vehicles for operations. The Maintainers took this in stride and quickly became the camp experts on the vehicles. Soon they were helping the USA troops too. On one of the search and destroy missions, a forward support location was set up including an advanced workshop detachment. Our EME training policy of generous infusions of theory and field experience, as well as our maintenance policy of IN-SITU front-line repair has paid off once again, thereby enhancing Canada's image internationally.

On the search and destroy missions, the helicopter landing zone security forces included EME soldiers. On one mission, the Commanding Officer's personal security detail included two EME soldiers. Our EME training policy of field as well as technical skills paid off - and a dozen tired infantry soldiers were given a bit of a rest.

Last year, the Commanding Officer of the Logistics Unit in the Golan was an EME officer. This year the RSM is an EME CWO. These are firsts in many years, if not the first ever, for us for these positions. This reflects a change in how others are looking on us, i.e. not merely as technicians but as soldiers with added value as technicians.

Our Branch is over 10% short staffed. Yet there are many EME personnel in interesting and critical positions - a result of our EME Strategic Plan. The Plan helps us to foresee problems, such as the looming problem in QL5 level and special skills training, and initiate action to speed up solutions. Most importantly, our Strategic Plan helps to keep us all together so that we can continue to give a Force wide team approach to ensuring that land equipment - used Force wide - remains operational.

At the WO. J.R. Muise Memorial Hockey Tournament this year, there were as many if not more teams participating than in previous years. The resources available to support such events are continually being reduced and our Craftsmen are making even greater efforts to participate. We still have that spirit of "work hard - play hard" which reflects high regimental spirit and inspires us to always do our best under any conditions.

During the operations in Afghanistan, the soldiers of 3 PPCLI Battle Group lived on hard rations. On EME Day, the Group's maintainers held a traditional sports day ending with a barbecue. The barbecue featured roast chickens, which had been provided by EME personnel working at the Battle Group's supporting Air Base. The Craftsmen at the Air Base, knowing that their colleagues in Kandahar were on hard rations, decided to give them an EME Day treat. They bought the roast chickens locally and one of them personally delivered the chickens on a re-supply flight. At the same time the EME folks back in Edmonton had made up a large container of much needed personal comfort items and sent it to the Battle Group's maintainers. These two simple examples of helping colleagues working under difficult, dirty and dangerous conditions reveal what is fundamentally right with the old EME Horse and why it continues to gallop along.

Yes, indeed the Canadian Forces is in a time of stress but its what's right that is keeping us going.

Arte et Marte

EME BRANCH FUND SCHOLARSHIP AND BURSARY AWARDS 2002



Maj Janelle (OC 5 Fd Wksp), Natalie Turcotte, MWO Turcotte (Tech Advisor, Tpt and Mov Coy, 5 GS Bn)



Capt Cook, Belinda Cook, LCol Carrier (Cmdt CFSEME), CWO Dalcourt (RSM CFSEME)

ROTO 1: JTFSWA OP APOLLO

By: MCpl A. Beaudry, Deployed

Members of National Support Unit (NSU) EME have finally gotten comfortable having arrived in theatre for OP APOLLO, ROTO 1 in Jul and Aug 02. It took a few weeks to adjust to the extreme heat and the working conditions, but everything fell into place and in no time our EME maintenance shops were conducting business as usual. This excellent EME team, as are all EME techs if I do say so myself, is comprised of Sgt Howie Fequet (411), MCpls Rick Tubbs and Greg Hawkins (411), MCpl Al Beaudry (421), Cpls Randy Blair, Jay Lajoie and Roger Squires (411), and last but not least, Cpl Dave Csikasz (441).

With this new environment being different from our Home Base and as well as dealing with people of other cultures for the procurement of tools, parts and services, our Local Purchase Order Clerk, MCpl Tubbs has done excellent work in finding all the necessary requirements that enable us to continue doing our jobs in a professional manner. This "EME Team" has been showered with many letters of appreciation for its outstanding and dedicated work and for the many improvements it brought to the camp. Due to hard work and especially teamwork, the accommodation area is looking better and better every day. Our Mat Tech, Cpl Csikasz, has also been very busy building an observation deck for the camp and a bench that proudly displays the EME colours for our roller blading friends.

Needless to say, things can't be all work and no play! Thanks to our great cooks, we can all enjoy a good meal or moreover, great steaks during our BBQs back at the "EME Ranch". MCpl "The Hawk" Hawkins found the BBQ and food while our cook, Cpl Jay Lajoie, put his culinary skills to the test and prepared an excellent feast. Therefore, moral is always good and our sense of humour carries on!

It goes without saying, although MCpl Hawkins, Cpls Blair, Lajoie and Squires have not only been working hard on camp maintenance, they have remained especially focused on keeping the vehicles and the AMSE equipment operational for the Tactical Air Lift Detachment and the Long Range Patrol Det. Unfortunately, the guys down at the "EME Ranch" have had to endure the heat a bit more being apart from the rest of the camp. Not to worry, they share a few bays with the Host Nation and continue to do awesome work.

Of course, Sgt " Muscleman" Fequet has had some input in keeping this section efficient and running smoothly. I have witnessed first hand that this Sr NCM would go out of his way to help his troops despite the fact that some of us felt he deserved to spend time behind bars during "Jail your Boss Day" (MP fundraiser for Blind Children) for having spent too much time at the gym. You're one of a kind Sarge! Finally, I certainly cannot forget the Wpns Tech; given he is the author of this article. As the one and only, I've been keeping busy repairing security containers, bikes, bikes and more bikes! What a nightmare! Who said a Wpns Tech would have to work on weapons???

Regardless of our jobs, we are aware that EME members are truly well respected wherever they serve, because **WE** make things happen. For the past few months, we have managed, yet again, to build a great team that contributes wholeheartedly to the success of OP APOLLO. We are all very proud to be a part of this team, which in the end makes us even more proud to be part of the EME Branch.

"Soldier On"
Arte et Marte

LETTER TO COLONEL (RETIRED) M.C. JOHNSTON
NEWS AND THANKS FROM THE 12TH ARMOURED REGIMENT OF CANADA

Dear Col Johnston: All the members of the regimental maintenance of 12 RBC chose to use this stand to give you our news. We also want to take advantage of this occasion to pass on to you our gratitude to all the efforts, which you displayed over these last years to support our Branch.

Here, a close collaboration exists between the technicians, the supervisors and the regimental staff. This collaboration gives us the real feeling to be a part of a strong and dynamic team and allows us to obtain a solid performance of the technicians. The fact of maneuvering constantly between the budgetary cuts, the surplus of tasks and especially the constant lack of technicians on the floor, requires excellent communication at all the levels to be capable of meeting the operational objectives as well as the training of the unit.

As one may suspect, our technicians are extremely devoted and professional, and constantly demonstrate their know-how in the technical domains to which the regiment is implied. Our technicians are always present and make very good soldiers when there are challenges to be raised, such as the physical competitions or when assistance is needed during patrols. We are also always very present when it is a question of participating or organizing fundraising for charity organizations. Our spirit of membership at 12 RBC is without ambiguity. Nevertheless, we make sure to keep and maintain an extreme allegiance to the EME Branch. Our guests notice at once our esprit de corps and our pride by observing our working spaces and our walls, which are painted in the representative colors of our Branch. Our flag is very dear to us and is always present during activities or during display.

At 12 RBC, the Branch is alive and very active. We are anxious to express to you all our gratitude for the effort, which you displayed in the name of the Branch since you became our Colonel Commandant. Your leadership and your exceptional dedication inculcated pride of membership to technicians of the Branch. Your visits to the troops in worldwide operations, or your impressive presentations on the fulfillments of the technicians of the Branch, gave us a noticed visibility, not only within the Army, but also within the Canadian Forces.

All the EME technicians of 12 RBC meet and say thank you for your ambassador's qualities as well for the pride and dedication with which you represent us.

Arte et Marte

Deadline for the submission of articles for the next issue of the EME Journal is 30 May 2003

MAINTENANCE IN SEARCH OF NEW CHALLENGES

By: MCpl D. Sirois, 5 Svc Bn

Maint Coy, 5 Svc Bn deployed on exercise within a city in the region of Mount Saint-Anne on 30 Sep ending in the training area of CFB Valcartier on 3 Oct.



A little of entertainment at Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré!
Cpl Page working on a LAV III near the Basilica of Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré

The first part of the Exercise was to get in touch with the civilian population of Mount Saint-Anne, set up base camp and remain here for the first three days of the Exercise. Various training took place including NBC, treatment of POWs, topography in the mountain and ethics lessons. Afterward, mobile repair teams were sent on missions to various locations in the region such as Saint-Tite-des-Caps, Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré and Saint-Ferréol-les-Neiges. I received the mandate, with my teammate, to replace two LAV III differentials in the parking lot of the Basilica of Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré!

Our presence attracted many curious onlookers. Many people asked questions about as to our profession and about the Canadian Forces. We even received a visit from an Officer of the Quebec Provincial Police. It was interesting to be in a context like this because it enabled us to interact with the local people. Furthermore, Mother Nature was on our side as the weather was quite enjoyable for this first part of the Exercise.

Afterwards, we moved to the training area of CFB Valcartier. Face camouflage, webbing and helmet were part of the dress. This was WAR! We completed harbour drills as well as road moves, dug trenches, did sentry post duties but did not sleep a lot. The temperature had cooled but it did not affect the display of the Auroras Borealis.

This Exercise allowed all participants to review their field craft techniques, practice radio communications, immediate actions, etc. Five days of hard work with much accomplished!

Arte et Marte



Cfn Roberto and Cpl Marceau changing an APC engine on the boulevard Saint-Anne

EME SPORTS DAY IN WINNIPEG

By: MCpl J. Allen, CFB Winnipeg

This year's EME Sports Day celebration at CFB Winnipeg was held on 10 May with troops from 2 PPCLI, 17 Wing EME, 38 CBG and 1 CAD HQ participating. The morning kicked off with coffee and donuts, especially important for those who had attended the Mess Dinner the night before. This year's sports were played indoors thanks to some snowy Winterpeg weather. Each of the six teams competed in three sports consisting of water basketball, floor hockey, and volleyball. There were a total of 5 games played by each team in the morning after which all were invited to the curling club for a barbecue and refreshments. Following lunch, all scores were tallied from the morning games and the top two teams were announced for the finals. Cpl James Koronko's team won in the finals over MCpl Jeff Allen's with a hard fought 9-8 victory in floor hockey. Closing ceremonies with cake and trophy presentations followed at the curling club. Throughout the day, our Col Cmdt, Col Johnston and the Br Chief, CWO Roy made their rounds, talking with the troops and partaking in the individual sports before flying home in the afternoon. A big word of thanks goes out to Sgt Randy Haskett and all those who helped organize and set up for the day's events. It was greatly appreciated by all participants and spectators.



From Left to Right: CWO Brian Lauzon, Maj Dave Barton, Col Cmdt Col (Ret'd) Murray Johnston, Cfn Tom Hicks and Br CWO Gilles Roy

2 GS BN EX RAPID REPAIR

By: Cfn J.M.F. Nolin and Cfn B.N. Hewitt, 2 GS Bn Fld Wksp

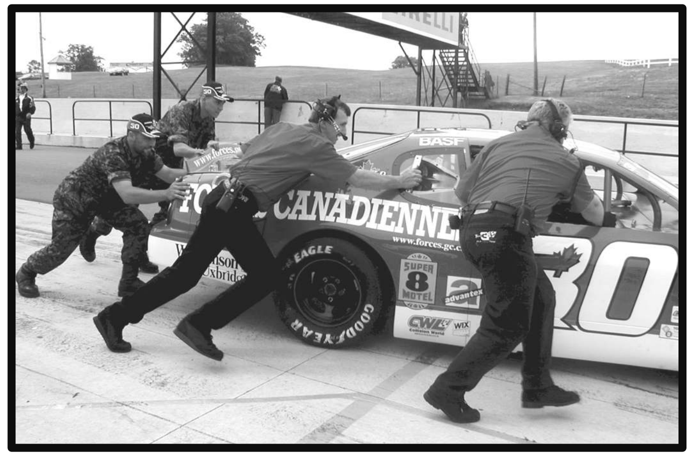
A recent initiative at 2 GS Bn is a partnership with a CASCAR Super Series race team named Team 3 Red. This partnership is intended to reward deserving Electrical Mechanical Engineering (EME) QL 4 (Apprentice) technicians and to promote enrolment in the CF by employing them in an exciting, highly visible environment. It is a definite bonus that this environment directly relates to EME maintenance tasks. It is a somewhat different medium but provides an excellent training opportunity. Cfn Hewitt, along with his Team 3 Red partner, Cfn Nolin were the first participants in this program. Cfn Hewitt wrote the following about his experiences with the team.

Over the last couple of months, Cfn Nolin and myself have been given the chance to do what some people only dream about. We were chosen to be a part of the Canadian Association of Stock Car Auto Racing (CASCAR) race team called Team 3 Red. The team is sponsored by the CF and is an exciting part of the CF recruiting drive. What better way to appeal to the more adventure-minded public than on the side of a race car!



On 25 May 02, Maj Garrard, Sgt Westholm, Cfn Nolin and myself traveled to Peterborough Speedway, met the team and discussed our participation with them. The race was delayed by one day due to rain. This gave us plenty of time to get to know the team and familiarize ourselves with the cars. The first thing I noticed was how friendly everyone was. They made us feel like a part of the team immediately. Ms Jamie Hakonson, the team's manager, showed us some of the equipment and gave us a tour around the vehicle support trailer. Rob Rowse, the team Crew Chief and son of Bill Rowse Jr. the driver of the #3 car, showed us the cars. The cars themselves resemble North American models, but this is only skin-deep as beneath a thin layer of fiberglass it's all business… race business. The chassis is made of steel tubing; the engine is a 425 Horsepower GM V8 stuffed with Hi-Performance goodies. Weighing less than 1400 kgs, this package motivates itself around a track quite nicely. I immediately wanted to drive one but I had no luck convincing them to let me. The cars are set up in such a way that almost every part can be taken off and changed within minutes. We spent a couple of hours asking questions, taking pictures and getting to know everyone.

The next day, we headed back to the Speedway early. The sun was shining and we helped prepare the car for the race. I was very impressed with the race and the entire race team with the



pit crew working like a well-oiled machine. Each person has a specific job and they do it with speed and precision much like the military. Bill finished the race in 6th position with no major problems.

During the weekend of 15-16 Jun 02, we again set out but this time for Mosport International Speedway. For this race, Team 3 Red would be running two cars, the second car being driven by a very fortunate CF member, 2Lt Fowler. 2Lt Fowler is in training to be a pilot and somehow has managed to get himself into the cockpit of one of these cars (now that's a posting!). We arrived on a Friday to help prepare the cars. The qualifying rounds were on Saturday and the race was on Sunday. We got our hands dirty on Saturday when 2Lt Fowler's car blew its transmission and clutch and Bill Rowse's car had brake problems. Despite these setbacks, we still managed to qualify in decent positions. On Sunday, the weather was against us, as it rained on and off all day. The rain held off long enough to start the race, but the race was delayed twice due to pouring rain. The second delay happened on lap 27 of 64 (in order for the race to count, each car has to finish 50% of the race). CASCAR officials made the call to finish five more laps in the rain. 2Lt Fowler lost control of his car and the car incurred some body damage but it was still drivable, Bill Rowse Jr. came in 7th.

It was a fantastic weekend. The fans were thrilled to see two soldiers working in the pit. I never thought I'd be doing something like this when I joined the CF. It's just proof that you never know where our job can take us. It was a great experience and I hope more people get the opportunity that Cfn Nolin and I had. To all the people that made it happen, thanks for the memories.

"Arte et Marte"

Since this article was written, there have been four rotations with Team 3 Red including the Molson Indy in Toronto. Our Branch symbol, the EME Horse now graces the Team 3 Red stock cars. This partnership would not have been possible without the incredible support of the racing team itself and in particular Ms Jamie Hakonson, the Team 3 Red Manager. Jamie, who has been an enthusiastic proponent of the program since day one, always finds time in her busy day for our troops. Our thanks go out to her and the rest of Team 3 Red. To read more about Team 3 Red, visit their website at www.team3red.com.

EME ON TOP OF THE WORLD

By: WO D. O'Donnell, 17 Wg Wpg
(Written with submissions by Cpl A. Urquhart, 17 Wg EME Sqn and Capt B. Bond, Heritage and History 17 Wg)

Every year in late August, OP BOXTOP, the annual re-supply of CFS Alert, starts up. The USAF base in Thule, Greenland is used as the staging base. A K35 loader complete with two EME technicians is sent to Thule to maintain the re-supply equipments and to assist with the re-supply of fuel and other necessary supplies for both Alert and Eureka. This year, the K35 team was comprised of MCpl André Lefebvre and Cpl Alex Urquhart, both from CFB Winnipeg. Busy as they were in keeping the K35 in operation, they took a moment one day to show the EME flag flies even in Greenland. EME is always where the action is!

In August 1958, one of the first re-supply flights to Canadian Forces Station (CFS) Alert was conducted using a C-119 "Flying Boxcar". Not long after those initial flights, the re-supply of CFS Alert became known as OP BOXTOP. By 1962, the newly commissioned C-130 Herc aircraft of 435 Sqn were tasked with OP BOXTOP. Today, 435 Sqn, through 17 Wg Wpg, continues to run OP BOXTOP with the help of all other Herc Sqns across Canada. Each Sqn is required to provide personnel and equipment, with 435 Sqn accepting overall responsibility for the OP.



Since the opening of CFS Alert, OP BOXTOP has been occurring in three phases throughout each year. In spring and in late summer, the OP consists of airlifts between Thule Air Base (TAB) in Greenland and CFS Alert. The third phase takes place in mid-summer and is a sea move from Montreal to TAB in order to pre-position supplies for the summer airlift. Typical airlift operations consist of a wet lift (POL) and a dry lift (food and other consumables). Each airlift phase requires 70 to 80 flights and approximately 150 personnel to complete. In order to re-supply Alert, three C-130 Hercs fly on a 24 hour schedule from Thule to Alert and return until the task is complete.

On 17 August 2002, Mcpl André Lefebvre and Cpl Alex Urquhart of 17 Wg EME Sqn departed Wpg on a CC-150 Airbus for TAB to participate in OP BOXTOP. One may ask what were two Veh Techs going to do in Greenland? Their primary function was to look after the K35 aircraft loader. Without the K35, stores cannot be unloaded from the Airbus. Re-supply stores destined for Alert are transported via Airbus to Thule. From there, the stores are transferred to Hercs and flown to CFS Alert. The Veh Techs' secondary function was to maintain the rest of the Canadian fleet of ground support equipment for the OP.

As you prepare to land in Thule, the first things you notice are icebergs in the nearby Bay, floating mountains of solid ice and snow. In the distance, barren hills and jagged mountaintops are the remaining scenery. The Base is located on a flat plateau with a landscape of rock that is devoid of vegetation. TAB is an oasis of modern life in the midst of a relentless, cold and unforgiving landscape. Indeed, there is no want of convenience, as long as you stay inside. Our techs stayed at the new North Star Hotel and each had their own room. By all accounts, the accommodations were great, as were the meals at the Dundas Dining Hall.

The first task was to prep five new dump trucks for loading onto the Hercs bound for Alert. The trucks endured a long trip by sea, followed by a month and a half wait in Thule, before finally being prepared for transport to Alert. This long waiting period saw numerous problems ranging from dead batteries to stale fuel that required the EME techs' immediate attention. After the Dumps were loaded and on their way, the next task was to remove 5,000 lb counterweights from the Case Loaders. This may sound simple enough, until you realize that the only equipment available to remove the weights was a Gerber tool and a screwdriver. Under those conditions, simply removing counterweights becomes very difficult. Fortunately, the Danish workshop was able to help out.

The first five days were very busy getting the equipment ready to transport. During that time, an opportunity to visit Alert presented itself, as one of the trucks required a boost in order to get it off the plane. Cpl Urquhart jumped at the chance to visit the most northern reaches of this great country we serve. Once the heavy equipment had departed, the K35 was put to use loading pallets; however, two major snags soon became apparent. One involved the deck not being able to raise more than 3 feet and the other being a computer malfunction that prevented the throttle from operating properly. Our techs soon diagnosed and repaired both in short order. The value of having EME support again proved valuable when the forklift, used to load aircraft, developed fuel related problems. Both worked long into the night and the early morning hours to rectify the problem. In keeping with an EME Tenant, "Providing Support As Far Forward As Possible" the EME techs demonstrated what it means to go where they are needed and work until the job is done.

During one of the few breaks, Cpl Urquhart and MCpl Lefebvre took time out to get a picture of themselves with our Branch Flag aboard the K35. From an EME perspective, the OP was a great success. According to both members, their Air Force brethrens treated them very well. When asked to explain, they responded in the words that every EME tech loves to hear: "they leave you alone and let you do your job". Both MCpl Lefebvre and Cpl Urquhart would recommend participating in OP BOXTOP and would gladly return to the "Top of The World" any time the need arises.

Arte et Marte

PATRICIAS/RAKKASANS - A FORCE OF ONE

By: WO Z. Vanthournout, 3 PPCLI

Early in Nov 01, the planning started (read controlled panic). There was a flash of media coverage of soldiers coolly and calmly preparing for an overseas mission. The mission, OP APOLLO, was the first time since the Korean Conflict where Canadian Land troops were being used in offensive operations. The first time since Korea, clear Rules of Engagement (ROE) were presented that allowed soldiers to act instead of react. The Canadian Forces were marching into history and Maint Pl of 3 PPCLI was in the thick of it.

The general situation looked like this. On one hand, you have a Light Infantry Battalion with limited vehicles, a Maint Pl of 30 personnel, an Eng Sqn, and a Recce Sqn with their own Maint Det. On the other hand, you have a complete American Battle Group (BG) with Air support and a Maintenance Organization of their own entrenched in the best digs that Khandahar, Afghanistan had to offer. The goal was to seamlessly fit our methods of Maintenance and Combat Service Support with our American counterparts. It was no easy task but was capably accomplished by the soldier technicians of Maint Pl. We became an integral part of Task Force Rakkasan.

After a drawn out arrival in the theatre, the Pl spent the first several days shaking out kit and setting up. To quickly establish ties with our American Counterparts, 626 Field Support Battalion, we offered them, on a weekly basis, two Veh Techs to augment their staff. To the Americans, it became very apparent how well trained and how quickly our technicians could adapt. Congratulatory comments were passed to technicians on how quickly and efficiently HUMMER engine and transmission replacements were being done; in fact better than their own technicians were. A few weeks after arrival, an area across from 626 Maint was recced by MWO Mark Salmon, the ETQMS, and the Maint O, Capt Jason Benoit, as a suitable site for Maint Pl. This allowed the platoon access to American Recovery resources and hardstand for repairs if required. Very quickly, a recovery policy was drafted that allowed Canadian Maintainers access to their (US) resources. Two Veh Techs were given specific training on the HEMMT and the FMTV, their heavy and medium wrecker. To compliment the American Maintenance Bn, the platoon's Mat Tech section was located within 626's building. They were in desperate need of welders and fabricators. This sharing of resources allowed the cohesive working relationship between the two units to flourish. To further assist the platoon, 626 offered to provide a sheltered dust free area for 1st and 2nd line FCS as well as the 2nd line Wpns repair shop.

The greatest problem encountered by us Maintainers was the lack of parts due to limited strategic airlift. Parts that were IOR, were expected to be 30 to 60 days in the pipeline to sunny downtown Khandahar. Weather and BG tasks presented other production difficulties. The days were becoming increasingly hot, with force protection (individuals fully bombed up) the main concern of the Task Force Rakkasan. Dehydration was a factor, as well as the near weekly sand storms. The threats of mortar and rocket attack were ever present, trenches were built and trench drills practiced. As the PPCLI BG finished their first month in theatre, the orders were given for deployment on OP ANACONDA and OP HARPOON. Members of the platoon were selected to move out and support the sniper detachments used in OP ANACONDA, as well a Forward Security Team, Call sign "Cowboy". Commanded by the BG's Tpt O and WO, the Tpt and Maint assets were amalgamated to create 3 sections (minus) for security task on OP HARPOON. Rehearsals/drills went very quick and very well. The capable infantry skills of EME personnel shone through and were evident. The technicians were employed not only as riflemen, but also were given the C-6 and 84 mm as well as 2IC responsibilities to be utilized in the battlefield. Others were issued M203 40 mm grenade launchers with all pers issued NVGs and Infrared Strobes for IFF. Section commanders were issued with PAC 4 laser target designators to co-ordinate fire at night. The soldiers were loaded down with rucks containing a minimal amount of Gucci kit; however, most were filled with 3 days of rations, water and a change of socks and underwear. The remainder of the rucks contained at least 3 belts of C-6 or 2 x 84mm rounds. All carried 4 fragmentation grenades, 3 smoke, 2 para flares, 2 trip flares with section commanders and 2ICs carrying 1 x M72 each. The average total kit load was 50 kgs with IPE, (helmet, vest and plates, LCV or Webbing) and each soldier issued with a C-7 or C-8 carried 300 rounds of ammunition. The only thing left was approval from the EME Senate for the formation of the new trades 411.01, 435.01 and 441.01 (Pack Mules).



Chinook Drop-off - Northern Mountains Afghanistan

The thrill of low level contour flying and the rush out the door to a "hot" LZ in a heliborne insertion into an "Exercise" battlefield is one adventure many have had the pleasure of accomplishing. Being launched out of the back end of a Chinook in Taliban held territory would be a totally unique experience for anyone. The day started very early as the Forward Support Group marched stoically towards an awaiting Chinook in Bagram. The security and support elements of Adm Coy, 3 PPCLI removed their rucks and flew into history. The "ride" on the Chinook was without incident; eyes were wide and senses were heightened. Disposable cameras shot pictures of friends and comrades in the helicopter and of the scenery passing by the ramp gunner who sat passively on the edge of the ramp. During the 1 hour flight, anxiety could be seen building in many as their thoughts were obviously elsewhere, loved ones, etc. Eventually the 2 minute signal was given; soldiers struggled in the cramped confines of the Chinook to get their massive rucksacks on. At the 1 minute signal, many were seen taking deep calming breaths stabilizing themselves, getting ready to go into the face of danger. The Chinook weaved itself

through the valleys and defiles of the mountainous terrain, landing on 30 deg angle to the aircrafts port side. The troops inside were thrown from starboard to port many losing their balance and falling. A John Deere Gator was in the Chinook and was the first out, followed by 3 other personnel. The heavy Chinook lost its footing in the rock and slid. To save the aircraft, the pilot had to abort the LZ, throwing one from the plane and leaving a second, a C-6 gunner hanging off the ramp. Two soldiers collaborated their efforts to secure the soldier on the ramp of the ascending helicopter. Others behind after realizing what had happened, grabbed onto the two rescuers to help in the effort. It was truly the stuff movies are made of…



Cutting EME Birthday Cake Left to Right- MWO Salmon (ETQMS), CWO Comeau (BG CWO), LCol Stogran (BG CO), Cpl Kieser (youngest Maintainer), Capt Benoit (Maint O), Col Beare (1 CMBG Comd), CWO Hunt (1 CMBG RSM)

The Chinook re-established the LZ, the soldiers disembarked; dust, dirt and gravel flew everywhere as the Chinook left and a second Chinook came in to drop off its own human cargo. Quickly the security element took up positions in the high features approximately 100 metres above and surrounding the LZ. The ground was littered with UXOs and carrying 50 kgs of kit made moving all the more worse. At an altitude of 9000 ft, it was extremely taxing on many soldiers. The outstanding fitness and stamina of the Patricia's was evident as not one succumbed to exhaustion. Watch and security routines were quickly established and fortifications improved. Personnel were fed, watered and rested. The LZ was easily a Company size defensive position that was able to land 2 Chinook Helicopters. From the LZ position, the burned out hulk of another Chinook could be seen a few kilometers away, the result of a failed insertion….this brought to light how lucky we truly were. During the 4 day operation, no enemy elements were encountered; however, many contact reports were called in. During the evenings, unmanned drones could be heard flying overhead searching for targets; the fast air and the subsequent explosion of a 500 lb bomb eventually followed this. The skies were frequently lit up in the cold mountainous air like an eerie light show. During the long cold mountain nights, Infrared spotlights used by recce aircraft and spectre gunships, determining friend or foe, constantly lit up our positions. During the day, B-52s ran racetracks over the operations. Area enemy positions were destroyed and exploited by air and ground forces alike. The only attempted breach of our perimeter was when a Taliban donkey walking its "usual" route through the LZ and set off a trip flare on the last morning of the operation. It nearly became a permanent part of the harsh landscape.

Our success on OP HARPOON was a function of our solid soldier skills, our motivation to perform on the front-line, and the effective amalgamation of Maintainers with Infanteers from Tpt Pl to create a solid security element. This mission, by US standards, was the highest altitude air-assault ever conducted. The other not so well known successes was the first heliborne deployment of a tracked vehicle (BV206) into a battlefield (for tactical movement of ammo, rats and water). This was accomplished by two of our very own Veh Techs. Another near success was the helo insertion of recovery team to repair the BV206. As their luck would have it, the techs at the LZ solved the problem. The proudest moment for all was the day they were awarded Air Assault Combat Patches by the Task Force Rakkasan Commander, Colonel Wiercinski. There are always after action reports and lessons learned (no mission goes without it). What we've learned was because of our training, we became more confident in ourselves. We've looked in the face of the absolute unknown and will have some great lies to tell at the next Bonspeil. We've learned to Hu-ah (although in a uniquely Canadian way). We've learned how to make two distinct organizations work together in the real world and most importantly, we've learned why we need to be here.

Arte et Marte



Maintainers on OP HARPOON- Air-aslt LZ Security Task
(Left to Right)
Back: MCpl Samuel, Capt Benoit, Cpl Crewe
Front of Flag: MCpl Goodwin
Middle: MCpl Crawford, Cpl McLaughlin, MCpl Vandervaate, Cpl Proctor, Cpl Leboeuf, Cpl Facey
Front: Cpl Orr, WO Vanthournout
Missing: MCpl Morin, Cpl Keirstead, Cpl Kohl.

NOTICE - E-MAIL CHANGES

EME Journal

Internal: +EME Journal@CFSEME HQ@Borden
External: emejournal@forces.gc.ca

EME Kit Shop

Internal: +EME Kitshop@CFSEME HQ@Borden
External: emekitshop@forces.gc.ca

EME COL CMDT VISITS DET DUNDURN

By: MCpl W. Adam, Det Dundurn

The 21st of Nov 02 came and went as any other might for most members of 17 Wg, but for the troops of Det Dundurn's EME section, it was definitely one to remember. Why was this day different than any other? The EME Br Col Cmdt, Col (Ret'd) M.C. Johnston and the Br Chief, CWO J.D.A.Vass, included our Det on their visit to western Canada.

For any EME tech, such a visit is cause for excitement and of course we were no different. The weeks prior to the visit were filled mostly with shock at the fact that our little shop on the prairies would be included in such a tour. When the big day finally arrived, it did not fail to meet our expectations. The day was kicked off with the troops greeting their guests at the workshop and engaging in "war stories" over coffee and sticky buns. The Col Cmdt then invited all to the HQ conference room for a presentation of his own. This was definitely the highlight of their visit; a presentation based on the history of the EME Flag, following its beginnings in the battlefields of Europe, through its evolution to the dark blue, yellow, red, and light blue that is recognized throughout the CF today. Following his presentation, we took photos in front of the workshop not only to prove the visit actually occurred, but in hopes of being included in the Col's next presentation; which will be based on EME workshops across the CF. Well, as all good things must, the visit ended and Col Johnston and CWO Vass were off to visit the EME Craftsmen of 1 GS Bn on exercise in Vegreville, Alberta.



The Col Cmdt's and the Br CWO's visit was a great morale booster for us soldiers/technicians in Saskatchewan. We look forward to his next visit to the little shop on the prairies. On behalf of all the EME pers here at Dundurn, I would like to thank Col Johnston and CWO Vass for taking the time to visit the Saskatchewan Craftsmen.

CFSEME ON REMEMBRANCE DAY

By: 2Lt M. Brosseau and MWO D. Prosser, CFSEME

It was a cold damp morning, with a fog still hanging in the air in the town of Creemore. All around the country we saw soldiers' proud faces. With heads held high, they paraded on 11 November all over the country to remember those who have fallen, so that today we can embrace the freedom that so many take for granted. When we looked at our brothers at arms, we saw in their eyes that pride was building from deep within them. It came directly from the bottom of their hearts and was echoed by the dedication of their souls. It was so strong that if you had listened quietly for an instant, you could have heard all of these hearts beating at the same time. It was like the beating of an hundred drums, the few, the chosen, the proud, the drums of the CFSEME soldiers.

On that day, one could tell that our soldiers were not there only to remember the fallen. They were there to honor them. They were there to show them that from their hands we have taken the torch and now we hold it high. As they stood amongst these warriors of old, they talked and shared with them as if they were of their own.

At CFB Borden, an old veteran had a tear at the corner of his eye when he said that you knew which soldiers were from CFSEME on parade because they looked as sharp and had the same flame in their eyes has did his fallen comrades.

In our Nation's Capital, Sgt Marshall Dumont was honoured to represent the Canadian Forces as the Sentry Guard Commander. To see such a warm reaction from the public was an inspiring testimony to the soldiers of yesterday and today. For CFSEME, we were just happy to do our part in carrying on the proud military legacy of this great country.

Lest We Forget and Arte et Marte

FRIENDS OF THE EME MUSEUM FUND

Mrs Marilyn Muise, widow of the late WO J.R. Muise graciously makes a generous donation ($1000.00) in memory of her late husband to the "Friends of the EME Museum Fund". Mrs Muise has also made several donations to the EME Branch WO J.R. Muise Memorial Hockey Tournament.

<u>Editor's Note</u>: This Fund has received several donations this past year from interested persons associated with the EME Branch. The Fund now stands at $7,956.83 and growing, and is earmarked towards the establishment of an EME Branch Museum.



EME SOLDIERS "IN THE GAN"

By: Cpl M. Leboeuf, 3 PPCLI (Deployed)

Third Battalion Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry (PPCLI) Maintenance Platoon (Maint Pl) deployed to Afghanistan in early Feb 02. Our mission: "Provide 1st and 2nd line support from a single Pl".

As we disembarked from the aircraft, the first things that had caught our attention were the amount of dust in the air and the scenic part of Kandahar airfield i.e, blown up buildings and aircraft wreckage. That first night as the temperature fell to 15°C, many had to share parts of their sleeping bags with others since only 9 of the 30 Maintainers had their kit accompany them into theater. We arrived with only the bare necessities (food, water and ammunition). We lived two persons with kit per four man tent and ate MREs (a US version of IMPs) and T-rations (canned food that needs to be warmed up). All tents were tied to each other because of the gusting winds and sand; this cut down on livable space. The second week in theatre, we finally received some equipment and tools, which allowed us to finally set up our maintenance facilities.

The sewing machine was to become the busiest piece of machinery in the Battle Group. The Mat Tech completed countless tasks from replacing zippers on four man tents to manufacturing POL covers or simply sewing the odd name tag. They also completed a lot of metal work such as welding on armored plate, manufacturing gym equipment and not to forget the making of 25 BBQs. This was a huge morale booster for the entire BG as now BBQs occurred once a month.

The Wpn Techs were tasked along with the FCS Techs to offer technical support on all range training. Other taskings included repairs to small arms, crew served weapons, stoves, lanterns and the restoration of all kinds of Russian weapons. During down time, the 2nd line Wpns Section made furniture and work benches to help make everyone's life easier.

The camp wiring, night vision goggles, generators, unreliable laundry unit and small arm sights kept 1st line FCS on the go. As for the FCS 2nd line, it was the components of the Coyote surveillance system and turret, NODLR, TOW and again night vision goggles.

The Veh Techs definitely had the worst working conditions. They did maintenance in a very sandy and hot compound where temperatures reached 45ºC on a regular basis. Several tents within the compound were used for the control office, a components section, a tool crib and a few sections as work bays. There was also the duty crew tent where at least one person from each MOC was on duty 24/7. Components Section regularly took parts of one MPDS (pressure washer used for our showers) to fix another one so as to keep the showers working. They also had to fix vehicles with anything they could find from repairing tires with Russian inner tubes found in the garbage to fitting Hummer wheels on a forklift.

Some of us EME types initially thought that the EME Battle School was unnecessary, however, ask any EME pers who went on offensive Ops alongside the infantry, and they will tell you that EME Battle School is truly a requirement. The EME soldiers were out in the mountains carrying C-9, C-6, M-72, grenades and even the Karl G. They were doing the same job as an infantry pers, on the front line securing a HELO landing zone so the infantry could push out and hunt for Taliban and Al-Qaeda. Some also went on operations for technical support. Arte et Marte at its best! Speaking of Arte et Marte, I would like to thank 1 GS Bn for the full dry wall of goodies they sent us for EME Day. EME Day was definitely the best day in theater, and it was because of the support of our EME brothers everywhere. Again, thank you everyone.

Although the conditions were difficult, everyone was very proud of being here, and will remember this mission for the rest of their lives. We proved that EME was up to any challenge regardless of its complexity. "At work or at play, EME is where the action is!"

Arte et Marte



POEM SUBMISSIONS

JUST A COMMON SOLDIER

By: A. Lawrence Vaincourt

He was getting old and paunchy and his hair was falling fast,
And he sat around the Legion telling stories of the past.
Of a war that he fought in and the deeds that he had done,
In his exploits with his buddies; they were heroes, everyone.

And tho' sometimes to his neighbours, his tales became a joke,
All his Legion buddies listened, for they knew where of he spoke.
But we'll hear his tales no longer, for old Bill has passed away,
And the world's a little poorer, for a soldier died today.

He will not be mourned by many just his children and his wife,
For he lived an ordinary quiet and uneventful life.
Held a job and raised a family, quietly going his own way,
And the world won't note his passing tho' a soldier died today.

When politicians leave this earth, their bodies lie in state,
While thousands note their passing and proclaim that they were great.
Papers tell their life stories, from the time they were young,
But the passing of a soldier goes unnoticed and unsung.

Is the greatest contribution to the welfare of our land,
A guy who breaks his promises and cons his fellow man?
Or the ordinary soldier, who offers up his all,
Is paid off with a medal, and perhaps a pension small.

It's so easy to forget them, for it was so long ago,
That the Old Bills of our country went to battle, but we know.
It was not the politicians, with their compromise and ploys,
Who won for us the freedom that our country now enjoys!

Should you find yourself in danger with your enemies at hand,
Would you want a politician with his shifting stand?
Or would you prefer a soldier who has sworn to defend,
His home, his kin and country and would fight until the end?

He was but a common soldier and his ranks are growing thin,
But his presence should remind us we may need his like again.
For when countries are in conflict when we find the soldier's part,
It's to clean up all the troubles that the politicians start!

If we cannot do him honour while he's here to hear the praise,
Then at least let's give homage at the ending of his days.
Perhaps just a simple headline in a paper that would say:
OUR COUNTRY IS IN MOURNING
FOR A SOLDIER DIED TODAY!!

WHO IS A SOLDIER

By: Miss Danielle M. Gracie, age 10 (daughter of Cpl E. and Mrs M. Gracie, 4 Wg Cold Lake)

In far away lands our Soldiers go
To face and fight an unknown foe
They leave behind family and friends
For only God knows when it will end.

They sleep in tents or very deep holes
For a Soldiers' only thought is to accomplish his goal
Young men and women, our sons and our daughters
They fight in the air on land and in water.

They carry the weight of the world on their shoulders
These brave young people that we call Soldiers.
In the dark of the night they'll answer the call
Feel safe and secure they'll give us their all.

In the service of peace, they'll fight for the cause
Not looking for fortune or even applause
They're sending a message for all to see
They'll give up their lives so we can be free.

On a line in the sand, our Soldiers will stand
To try and bring peace to some foreign land
And if they succeed in this great deed
They'll return home knowing another child has been freed.

In the middle of war on some foreign shore
A Soldier will fall as he fights for us all
They'll think not of glory or even be sorry
For neither the price that they've paid nor the sacrifices they've made.

So stand up straight and blow your horn
For the brave men and women who wear the uniform.

EME BRANCH FUND SCHOLARSHIP AND BURSARY AWARDS 2002



Maj Thompson, Kelly Sara Thompson, LCol Carrier (Cmdt CFSEME), CWO Dalcourt (RSM CFSEME)



CWO Jutras (ETSM 5th Field workshop), Maj Janelle, Jonathan Laberge, MWO Laberge (CSM Maint Coy, 5 Svc Bn)

CARRYING ON THE TRADITION - 1944-2002

By: Col (Ret'd) M.J. Johnston, Col Cmdt

We are the Canadian Army's Soldier-Technicians. Not only do we keep equipment fit for operations anywhere, any time, any place, but we can also fight as soldiers if needed in an emergency or to spell off a tired combat arms soldier. We are indeed added value on the battlefield and… The Commander's "Reserve Force". (*LCol Stogran to Col M.C. Johnston at the Vimy Dinner 2002)*



In 1944, the assault groups of the infantry battalions landing on D-Day included all of their RCEME Craftsmen who fought as soldiers by day and repaired equipment by night.

A tradition had been started.



You can see the escort's
RCEME-CANADA flash
3 Cdn Inf Div patch
Armourer's trade badge
wound stripes



In 2002 members of the "Rakkasans", the members of 3 PPCLI Maintenance Platoon participated in operational taskings such as OPERATION ANACONDA in Afghanistan.

The tradition continues.

OBITUARIES

Cpl (Ret'd) R. Rodney Best

It is with deep regret that I announce the death of Cpl (Ret'd) Rodney Best, 411 Veh Tech. WO Hanrahan was in contact with Rodney's brother Andrew this week. He asked us to relay the following to the EME Branch Family. Rodney's death was sudden and unexpected. He passed away of heart failure on 11 November 2002 around 1235 hrs while involved in a team sport at a Sudbury college. Rodney was released from the CF in Petawawa a year ago and was attending college as part of post retirement training education. Andrew did not know how to contact us at the time of Rodney's death. Messages and e-mails of condolences can be sent to CFSEME Attention WO Kevin Hanrahan.

MCpl (Ret'd) Nicholas Kyrejto, CD

On Wednesday, 16 October 2002 Nicholas Kyrejto of Cold Lake AB passed away at the age of 55 years. He enlisted into the CF (N) in March 1967 and served aboard the HMCS Fundy, HMCS Qu'Appelle and was stationed at CFB Esquimalt until his remuster to Vehicle Technician in August 1981. He was then posted to 4 Service Battalion Lahr Germany and after his tour he was transferred to Base Maintenance CFB Cold Lake where he served from 1986 to his retirement from the CF in August 1992. He quickly landed a position with the Public Service and was employed at 4 Wing Cold Lake EME Squadron in the Procurement Section until his passing. Nic was actively involved and enjoyed curling, golfing and being a baseball and softball umpire. Nic is lovingly remembered by his Wife Linda: his two Sons Joshua and Jacob of Cold Lake, AB, Mother: Anna of Edmonton, AB: Sister: Sophie Sydor Nephew: Jason Sydor, of Edmonton, AB, two Nieces: Marsha Hryciuk of Saskatoon, SK and Leeann Arlia of Edmonton, AB. His many co-workers, close friends and extended family members will greatly miss his love for life, his smile and his sense of humour.

Mervyn A. Jennings, WWII Veteran, RCEME

Entered into rest peacefully at the Lennox and Addington County General Hospital, Napanee on Tuesday 28 January 2003 in his 81st year. Beloved husband of the late Florence A. Olsen. Loving Father of the late Mervyn Allan Jennings and his Daughter Diana Jennings-Tassone, Mervyn III and Lori Ann Coates. Dear Brother of Douglas Jennings of BC.

WO (Ret'd) W.C. (Bill) Whitehead

Bill passed away at Thunder Bay Regional Hospital, McKellar Site, on Wednesday, 31 July 2002. Bill was retired from RCEME. after 30 years of service. He is survived by his Wife Marilyn, Sons Kenneth, William and David, nine Grandchildren, Mother Mrs Alice Whitehead, two Sisters and two Brothers, all from Hamilton, Mother-in-Law Mrs Muriel Kennedy, one Sister-in-Law and one Brother-in-Law and many Nieces and Nephews.

MWO (Ret'd) T. (Tom) Martin, CD

Peacefully at home on 24 August 2002, at 55 years young following a short, courageous battle with brain cancer. Beloved Husband of Angie (nee Usher), loving Father of Tom, (Marjolaine Belzile), Michelle, Anne-Marie, Renee, Adam, Todd and Nick, Step-Father to Aurora, and proud Grandfather of Zacharie, Gabrielle and Celeste. He is survived by his Mother Monica (nee Bourgeois) and ten Brothers and Sisters. Goodbye Darling, and Daddy, Big Papa and Son, Big Brother, and Cherished Friend. After a brief period in the NHL, Tom served in the RCEME Corps of the Canadian Forces from 1964 to 1992 and then as a civilian consultant for an additional 10 years. The highlight of his career was his time with the Canadian Airborne Regiment (1976-1981). His passion for woodworking and restoration has left its mark wherever he lived throughout his career, but most notably in Antrim and Chesterville where, until recently, he was restoring the Casselman house on Water Street

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EME BRANCH FUND MEMBERSHIP DRAWS

There will be eight draws, one draw during each EME Branch hosted activity listed below. Each draw will consist of a $150.00 cash prize and a $100.00 gift certificate from the EME Branch Kit Shop. The activity draws are as follows:

Event	Location	Date
Curling Bonspiel	LFWA	Feb
Curling Bonspiel	LFAA	Mar
Curling Bonspiel	LFCA	Mar
EX BLUEBELL	Ottawa/Borden	May
Golf Tournament	CFSTG	Aug
Golf Tournament	LFQA	Aug
Golf Tournament	LFWA	Sep
Hockey Tournament	CFSTG	Dec

Winners 2002

Cfn T.P. Ennis, 2 GS Bn - CFSTG Hockey
CWO (Ret'd) R. Desgagnes - LFWA Golf
Capt (Ret'd) J. Wilkin - LFQA Golf
Cfn V.F. Montpetit, 5 GS Bn - CFSTG Golf
Cpl R.T. Goodall - BLUEBELL
Cfn J.D. Hachey, CFSEME - LFAA Bonspeil
MCpl C.B. Hardy, CFB Gagetown - LFCA Bonspeil
Capt R.L. Gagnon, 2 GS Bn - LFWA Bonspeil